

# MEGWAA EZHOWEBAAK Little River Currents

Namebine-Giizis (Sucker Moon)  
April 2006, Vol. 3 Issue 4



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Little River Band of  
Ottawa Indians  
375 River St.  
Manistee, MI 49660



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Department of the Navy

Naval Historical  
Center



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MILITARY  
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## Little Casino Resort – ‘A good neighbor’

BY DAVID L. BARBER -

Managing Editor, Manistee News Advocate



Kaleva – A golden ribbon known as the Lake Michigan shoreline lies to its west.

The pristine Manistee National Forest – with majestic Eagles gliding high overhead like silent, soaring sentinels – lies to its east.

Rockwellian hamlets – placid and inviting – dot the landscape to the north.

And the county seat – a historic and yet neoteric center of commerce – lies to its south.

What better place for the Little

River Casino Resort to be located than the heart of all that is growing and great in Manistee County?

With a full house looking on Friday night, the little River Casino Resort was presented with the Manistee Economic Council and Chamber Alliance’s (MECCA) ‘Corporate Citizen of the Year Award.’

“When we talk about the economic development in a community, we recognize the efforts

first should be placed on retention of current jobs, then expansion, and thirdly attracting new business,” said past president of MECCA Judy Ouvry. “Our ‘Corporate Citizen of the Year’ has done all three.

“The Little River Casino is now the county’s largest employer with 900 people. They continue to operate a hotel, restaurants and a casino in Manistee County. This past year, they expanded the hotel facility and increased the number of jobs at the resort by 25.

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## Tribal Business Development:

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Which Build Communities

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## LRBOI ANNUAL SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Saturday May 13, 2006

Little River Casino Resort's Three Fires Convention Center



~ Attention ~

*Girls and young ladies ages 5-18*

*The 2006 Miss and Jr. Miss Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Princess applications are now available. The Cultural Preservation Committee encourages all Tribal and descendant girls and young ladies to apply.*

Qualifications:

*Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Member or Descendant*

*Age 5-12 (Jr. Miss) or Age 13-18 (Miss)*

*Have full regalia corresponding to their style of dance*

*Knowledge of Tribal traditions and history*

*For more information or for an application packet, please call (231) 398-2222 or toll-free at 1-888-723-8288, ext. 2222 or email [cpc@lrboi.com](mailto:cpc@lrboi.com)*

## SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING

- DETAILS -



Schedule:

**9 a.m.** Registration Begins

**10a.m.** Information Booths

**Noon** Potluck Lunch  
PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS

**1p.m.** Meeting begins

### Hotel Information:

Little River Casino  
231.723.1535

Microtel  
231.723.0008

Super 8  
231.398.8888

Days Inn  
231.723.7385



Little River Casino Resort's  
Three Fires Convention Center  
2700 Orchard Hwy  
Manistee, MI 49660



## Be-Da-Bin's 2nd Annual Egg Hunt

**Saturday,  
April 15, 2006**

**11:00 am  
At  
Gathering Grounds  
(across from Casino)**

**Any questions call  
Julie Wolfe  
Prevention Specialist  
(231) 398-6632**



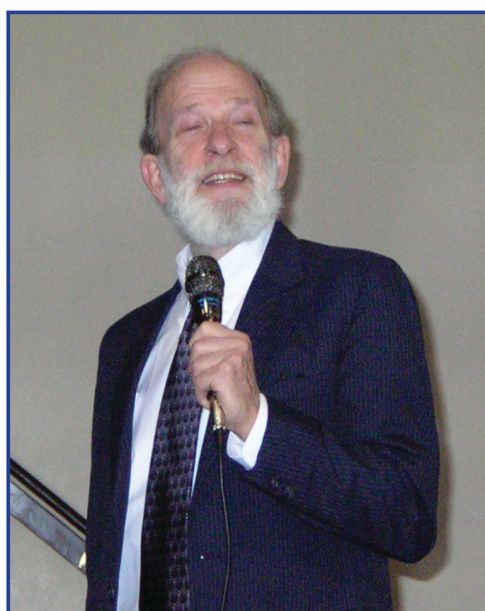
**Grand prize awarded  
for each age group  
(0-2, 3-6, 7&up)**

**Join us for lunch afterward  
and door prizes**

**All children must be  
accompanied by an adult**

**Hope to see ya there!**

**Happy Easter**



### CORRECTION -

In the March issue of the Little River Currents, I identified this picture as being that of 'Respected Elder Joe Kelsey'. This was a mistake on my part as there was no photograph of Joe Kelsey. This picture is, in fact that of Mr. Robert (Bob) Cameron. The photo appeared on page 17 in the context of a Be-Da-Bin article. Thank you to Julie Wolfe for making the correction.

I apologize for this mistake,  
Emily Drouin

# Activities and Events

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*Namebine-Giizis (Sucker Moon)*  
April 2006, Vol. 3 Issue 4

**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
**12th Annual**  
**Traditional Jiingtamok (Pow Wow)**  
**July 1 & 2, 2006**  
**Little River Band Gathering Grounds**  
**Across from the Little River Casino**  
**(Corner of US-31 and M-22)**  
**Manistee, Michigan**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
Handicap Accessible

**Grand Entries:**  
Saturday 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm  
Sunday 1:00 pm

**All Head Personnel are to be announced at a later date**

**\*Drum Honorarium to first \*  
5 on-site registered Drums**

**Princess Contest 2006**

Camping Available - Restrooms & Showers On Site  
(First Come First Serve Basis)

**Not responsible for lost or stolen items or injuries**

**Absolutely No Alcohol, Drugs or Violence Will be Tolerated**

Vendor space is limited to the first 40 registered and paid vendors.  
(Vendors must be Native American)  
No factory-produced products allowed except for blankets, audio & video, beads & supplies, books, and clothing.

Drum Contact: Jerry Ramsey 231-398-0005  
Vendor Contact: Valerie Chandler 231-398-2222 or toll-free 1-888-723-8288

Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Cultural Preservation Committee  
For more information, please email [cpc@lrboi.com](mailto:cpc@lrboi.com) or call 1-888-723-8288

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
12th Annual Jiingtamok  
vendor applications are now available.

**NEW!!**  
LRBOI Tribal Members will receive a discount on their vending space!

Space is limited to 40 vendors and only 4 food traders will be accepted.

Reserve your space now before it's too late.

For more information or for an application packet:  
Call toll-free at  
1-888-723-8288, ext. 2222  
or (231) 398-2222

Email [cpc@lrboi.com](mailto:cpc@lrboi.com)

## To all Tribal Members We are asking for your support

We are trying to ensure that this next phase of our Casino and Resort is being constructed by qualified, skilled trade labor. The Building trades are supporting Duane Renner and Robert Renner, who are Tribal Members. We would like to hear from all Tribal Members, including those that are affiliated with any Union at all, and are willing to support this cause. If you are willing to support us in our quest to have Tribal Members involved in this project please contact Duane at (231) 398-0075, or Robert at (231) 723-0716.

*Miigwetch*

Duane Renner & Robert Renner

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Letters to the Editor...

Editorial

Kudos to Bill Brooks

I met Bill at a Muskegon meeting, and liked him immediately.

In 1998, as a volunteer for the tribe I saw him frequently, and grew to know Bill was unassuming quiet and reserved. Are tribal members aware of all that has been accomplished with his unfaltering efforts, commitment and dedication? Bill was instrumental in the tribe becoming federally recognized. In those days there was no money, no fancy offices, but that did not deter him. He still chose to work, can you imagine that? He worked with those tribal members, which were also dedicated and determined. He hung in there when most would have gone elsewhere. At the time it was not an impressive job, but oh so important, at least to Little River people. He was THE tribal attorney, and kept everything going, which was not an easy task

It will be strange indeed without Bill around. You could always count on his working diligently for our tribe. I feel like you are one of us. Thank you Bill for everything. You are a gem, kudos to you. Your presence will be sadly missed.

Miigwetch and Blessings to your future  
Kathy Bowen tribal elder

Editor's note: Tribal Attorney Bill Brooks last day working for the tribe was February 28th. He is the third attorney to leave the government in the last few months.

-----  
SPRING  
February 23, 2006 9:34 PM


The holidays of the season before bring so much stress, tension, craziness, and joy to people all around us. Then spring comes and like the creator promises new life; changes occur. It's not always easy in the start of it but then you see He keeps his word. New life causes the changes and surprises in life, but it also brings joy and craziness to our lives. New life can be dreams coming true, getting married, having a child. New life does not just occur in our life but it changes the earth and the surroundings that we see all the time, like trees getting their leaves back, flowers coming up, and the weather changing. Whatever new life is or may bring, you must remember that the challenges are there to change you and ask you to make those choices and decisions in life that will make you stronger in life. Even though spring means new life and gives you the chance to make a new start in life. The other seasons like summer, fall, and winter all bring you other gifts and other chances in life. As the year goes by and seasons change you must remember that all year round and everyday that goes by there is a new lesson to be learned and a new chance for life.

Christine Verheek  
Tribal Youth

*Letters to the editor will be printed provided they follow the guidelines published in the February issue of the 'Currents'.*






*The Little River Currents will make every effort to find the right people to respond to your questions and comments and we will print these responses in the subsequent paper.*

Thank you for your letters, we greatly appreciate them!



**LRBOI Toll Free Job Hotline**  
**1-866-556-5660**  
For more information, contact :  
Alyce Giltz in Human Resources @ 1-888-723-8288



| April     |  |                        |  |     |   |  |
|-----------|--|------------------------|--|-----|---|--|
| Sun       | Mon  | Tue                    | Wed  | Thu | Fri                                     | Sat  |
|           |  |                        |  |     |   | 1 CP2 9p-1a<br>(Variety)   |
| 2         | 3 Polka Monday<br>Jack Videtich Orch.<br>Poker Tournament      | 4<br>Poker Tournament  | 5<br>    | 6   | 7 Detour 9p-1a<br>(Variety/Rock)        | 8 Detour 9p-1a<br>(Variety/Rock)   |
| 9         | 10 Polka Monday<br>Rodney Rayer & Pals<br>Poker Tournament     | 11<br>Poker Tournament | 12<br>   | 13  | 14 Brian Schram<br>(Sp-1a Rock 'n Roll) | 15 Brian Schram<br>(Sp-1a Rock 'n Roll)  |
| 16 Easter | 17 Polka Monday<br>Andy Nester Orch.<br>Poker Tournament       | 18<br>Poker Tournament | 19<br>   | 20  | 21 Thunderoad<br>(Sp-1a Country)        | 22 Thunderoad<br>(Sp-1a Country)   |
| 23        | 24 Polka Monday<br>Virgil Baker/Just 4 Fun<br>Poker Tournament | 25<br>Poker Tournament | 26<br> | 27  | 28 Montage<br>(Sp-1a Variety/Dance)     | 29 Montage<br>(Sp-1a Variety/Dance)<br> 12N-10p<br>Slovenian Fest |
| 30        |  |                        |  |     |   |  |

2006

The *Currents* is now offering FREE ADVERTISEMENT  
to all Tribal Members that own a business  
(Up to 1/4 page in size)

Send your ads to: [edrouin@lrboi.com](mailto:edrouin@lrboi.com)  
or by mail to 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660  
care of Public Information.

## LRBOI Direct Contact Numbers

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Ogema's Office                         | 231-398-6824 |
| Tribal Council                         | 231-398-6845 |
| Kimberly Alexander                     | 231-398-6835 |
| Shannon Crampton                       | 231-398-6849 |
| Norbert Kelsey                         | 231-398-6828 |
| Don Koon                               | 231-398-6831 |
| Steve Parsons - Speaker                | 231-398-6830 |
| Elaine Porter                          | 231-398-6833 |
| Janine Sam - Recorder                  | 231-398-6834 |
| Israel Stone                           | 231-398-6807 |
| Accounting                             | 231-398-6878 |
| Be-Da-Bin                              | 888-382-8299 |
| Casino - Toll Free                     | 866-466-7338 |
| Clinic Operations                      | 888-382-8299 |
| Contract Health/EHAP                   | 888-382-8299 |
| Community Health Representatives (CHR) | 888-382-8299 |
| Economic Development                   | 231-398-6806 |
| Election Board                         | 231-398-6852 |
| Education                              | 231-398-6724 |
| Elders                                 | 231-398-6709 |
| Enrollment                             | 231-398-6713 |
| Family Services                        | 231-398-6726 |



|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Food Commodities                  | 231-398-6715 |
| Grants                            | 231-398-6870 |
| Gaming Commission                 | 231-398-2269 |
| Health Toll Free                  | 888-382-8299 |
| Historic Preservation             | 231-398-2221 |
| Housing                           | 888-723-8288 |
| Human Resources                   | 231-398-6704 |
| Language Hotline                  | 877-789-0993 |
| Legal                             | 231-398-6822 |
| Members' Legal Assistance Program | 231-398-6820 |
| Little River Casino Resort        | 888-568-2244 |
| Member's Assistance               | 231-398-6731 |
| Natural Resources                 | 231-723-1594 |
| Peacekeeping                      | 231-398-2239 |
| Planning                          | 231-398-6810 |
| Prosecuting Attorney              | 231-398-2242 |
| Public Information                | 231-398-6840 |
| Public Safety                     | 231-398-2225 |
| Reception                         | 888-723-8288 |
| Tax Department                    | 231-398-6874 |
| Toll Free                         | 888-723-8288 |
| Tribal Court                      | 231-398-3406 |
| Utilities                         | 231-723-2309 |
| Warriors Society                  | 231-398-6720 |



## Casino

- Continued from front page

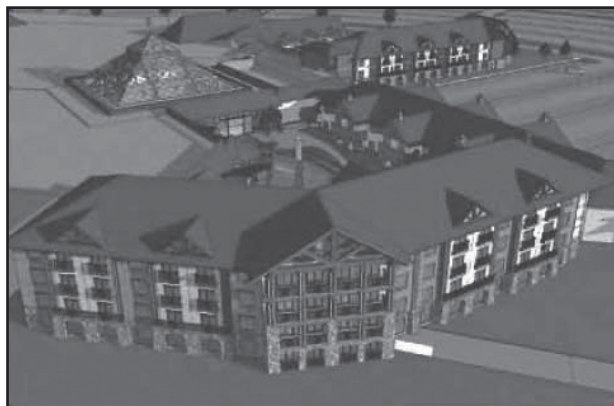
“The resort recently embarked on a \$ 35 million expansion that will bring the total number of hotel rooms to 300”, Ouvry said.

“As far as attracting new business, along with the hotel expansion, the resort is adding a 1,400 seat auditorium that will bring more conferences and entertainment opportunities to Manistee County.”

But it’s not just what Little River Casino Resort officials brought to their own business that won them this year’s award, said Ouvry, but what they brought to the entire county.

“The Little River Casino Resort has provided millions of dollars of community support through the Revenue Sharing program,” Ouvry said, “(including) thousands of dollars of support to charities through their annual Casino Charity Golf Outing, marketing opportunities, a partnership with the Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, and support of countless community events and programs.”

As much as the Little River Casino Resort



has grown over the past six years, it’s the way it’s helped surrounding communities grow as well that has played a significant role in the overall well-being of the county, said Dave Yarnell, Executive Director of MECCA.

“I’m not sure you’ll find a place anywhere in the county that hasn’t been affected in appositive way – one way or another – by the casino resort,” Yarnell said.

“Schools, local governments, parks and so much more have all benefited from the generosity (of the Little River Casino Resort). Boy, oh boy, they’ve really been a good neighbor – that’s for sure.”

**NEWS ADVOCATE**

*Published on February 14th in the Manistee News Advocate*

*Author David L. Barber*

*Managing Editor*

*For more on Casino management see pp. 17, 18, 19, 20*

## Pokagon Elders Visit LRBOI

There was a festive atmosphere at the Community Center on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. A group of approximately 30 Elders from the Pokagon tribe near New Buffalo, MI came to Manistee to visit. Katie Glocheski, June Sam and some other wonderful LRBOI helping hands prepared an excellent feast with two different soups, fry bread, desserts and all the trimmings to welcome the visiting Elders.

Pokagon Elder Treasurer and Tribal Council advisor Clarence White (Wesaw) gave *Currents* an interview and first described how they operate as Elders at this point. “We are only there as advisors to the tribal council at this time, not voting members,” he said.

As to the recent steps forward for the Pokagon Tribe to build their casino near New Buffalo, White said, “We are starting

to get our feet wet. Right now we’re in the process of clearing up all of the paperwork and then, hopefully, it will be the spring and then we hope to get it (the casino) done and open in 2007.” “We’ll invite Little River Band down to visit our casino at that time,” he said.

White and all of the visitors thanked Katie and the tribe for the feast and warm welcome extended to them during this visit to Manistee.

White also reported that this year they are going to have their language camp out at “our facility,” in Dowagiac. He said they’ve come quite far in building the facility (grounds), have added pavilions, worked on getting the space spruced up and added dance arbors. He added that whereas everything in the past had been held out in the hot sun now they offer all brand new bleachers that are shaded. White said that they like that Rogers Lake area and think that when visitors make it there that, “They will be satisfied too!”

LRBOI Ogema Patrick D. Wilson, Tribal Assistant Manager Lynn Moore, Executive Assistant to the Ogema Mary Thomas, Natural Resources Director Bob Hardenburgh, Enrollment Director Diane Lonn, Membership Services Director Lee Iverson, Public Information Director Glenn Zaring and a number of other tribal members and employees were on hand to welcome the Pokagon Elders.



*Ogema Patrick Wilson with Pokagon Elders in the dining hall at the LRBOI Community Center*





## !! Beware of Tax Scams !!

### The IRS Doesn't Use E-mail to Request Information

With the April 15th tax filing deadline rapidly approaching, be careful that you don't fall prey to online scams that try to get you to provide identity information. The following warning is based on an excerpt from the Washington Post.

Scammers are capitalizing on the fact that more than half of all tax returns are expected to be filed electronically this year. Consider this recent e-mail claiming to be from the IRS: "You filed your tax return and you're expecting a refund. You have just one question and you want the answer now. Where's My Refund? Access this secure Web site to find out . . ." The Web site looked like the real IRS site. But it wasn't.

The Web site asked for Social Security numbers and credit and bank account information, part of an online identity theft scheme known as "phishing."

The IRS warns consumers to disregard any e-mail that purportedly comes from the agency. "The IRS does not communicate with taxpayers electronically," said Richard Morgante, the IRS commissioner of wage and investment. "If you get a communication from the IRS, it is via a letter in the mail or a phone call."

If in doubt, consumers should call the agency's toll-free number, 800-829-1040, to determine the legitimacy of any notice, Morgante added.



## Notice from the Tax Office -



## Tribal Business License Required

The Tax and Revenue Administration Ordinance, Article VIII, says that any business owned by the Tribe, Tribal members, or the Tribe and Tribal members, which is located within the Reservation or within the Agreement Area shall be required to obtain a Tribal business tax license from the Tax Department. Registration forms are available from the Tax office.

Call the tax officer at :  
231-398-6874 for more information.

## Tribal Taxes

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians began collecting certain taxes at the Little River Casino on February 1st, 2006. This marks yet another step in tribal development as a sovereign nation and autonomy as a people.

The Tribal Taxes that are being collected within the territorial jurisdiction of the Tribe include: Lodging & Occupancy Tax, Food & Beverage Tax, Retail Sales Tax, and Admissions Tax. The tax rate is 6%. An exemption is allowed from the "Retail Sales Tax" on sales to resident Tribal members. An equivalent discount on sales to non-resident Tribal members is available at the Odawa Gift Shop location only.

Tribal members are not exempt from the Lodging & Occupancy Tax, the Food & Beverage Tax, or the Admissions tax with one exception. Tribal elders are exempt from the Admissions Tax. However, their tickets must be purchased at the Odawa Gift Shop to make their exemption claim.

## CARING FOSTER FAMILIES

CHILDREN NEED OUR HELP.

YOU CAN EMPOWER TRIBAL FAMILIES TO REGAIN SOME PRIDE AND CONFIDENCE.  
KINSHIP AND FOSTER CARE CAN HELP A CHILD BECOME A HEALTHY ADULT.

WE NEED CARING PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO EXTEND A HELPING HAND.  
HELP US GUIDE A CHILD BACK TO THE TRADITIONS OF OUR PEOPLE; SHARING, CARING AND LOVE.

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO HELP

CONTACT INDIAN CHILD WELFARE  
1-231-398-6726

# Little River Band Housing Update

by CHUCK FISHER - HOUSING DIRECTOR

Applicants to the Residential Lot Lease and Leasehold Mortgage Program should have received their preliminary lot assignments by the time this article is available in the newsletter. The Housing Department is also still trying to determine why the tribal members who originally requested application packets did not return their completed applications, and a letter to these individuals has also recently been sent requesting this information. We hope the information we receive will helpful in further refining the program. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Residential Lot Lease and Leasehold Mortgage Program will remain open until all of the lots available in the “first round” are spoken for. The other lots available

at Aki maadiziwin will be opened as the utility infrastructure is completed. More than likely, this will occur in two additional phases. It is expected that separate announcements will be made. We are not accepting applications for the lots that will be opened in the future at this time. We have also encountered additional utility infrastructure needs related to the lots we are in the process of making available to tribal members. A contract is being developed by Consumer’s Power that will address these needs and we are hopeful that this work can be completed by the end of April or the first part of May (at the latest). With the completion of this work, the lots currently being “preliminarily” allocated to tribal members will be ready to build on.

We continue to work through a variety of details that will hopefully assure that the down-payment assistance program, closing cost assistance program, refinancing incentive program, and homeownership education programs will also be available to the membership in this same timeframe. There will be a separate application for these program benefits.

We continue to encourage tribal members to contact that Housing Department for an application for the lots that are currently available and we will continue to work with the tribal members who have currently requested access to the program.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCES



|                                  |  |                                |   |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|
| KENT COUNTY                      |  | NEWAYGO COUNTY                 |   |
| YWMCA Domestic Crisis Center     | (616) 459-4681<br>Crisis (616) 451-2744            | WISE                           | Crisis (231) 796-6600<br>Or (800) 374-9473        |
| LAKE, MASON, AND OCEANA COUNTIES |  | OTTAWA COUNTY                  |   |
| Region Four Community Services   | Crisis (800) 950-5808                              | Center for Women in Transition | Crisis (616) 392-1970<br>Or (800) 848-5991        |
| MANISTEE COUNTY                  |  | WEXFORD COUNTY                 |   |
| CHOICES                          | Crisis (231) 723-0082                              | OASIS/Family Resource Center   | Crisis (231) 775-7233                             |
| MUSKEGON COUNTY                  |  | LRBOI Domestic Violence        |   |
| Every Women’s Place              | Main (231) 759-7909<br>24 hr Crisis (231) 722-3333 | Prevention Program             | Toll free (888) 723-8288<br>Direct (231) 398-6726 |

## CURRENTS SUBMISSION COUPON

Please fill out the following coupon, cut it out, and mail it to; *Little River Currents* 375 River St., Manistee, MI 49660  
Dedications we receive will be published in the next available newspaper issue.

Name:\_\_\_\_\_ Tribal ID #:\_\_\_\_\_

Day-time Phone #:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday/Belated Birthday

\_\_\_\_\_ Birth Announcement

\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary/Wedding

\_\_\_\_\_ School/College Achievement

Write your dedication text out completely, for example: “Happy 60th Anniversary, Aunt Mary and Uncle Harry, April 1, 2004. From your family and friends.” Dedications are printed EXACTLY as printed in the box below.

## LET US KNOW HOW WE’RE DOING!

The Little River Currents wants to know what we can do to make this paper your voice.  
Please take the time to make comments, suggestions, pat us on the back, or make a complaint.  
If we can do better, we will do better.



## Fasting



*Iron Shell - By Kirby Sattler*

### Preface

The information in this article is only a small portion of the many and extensive Native Teachings that exist. Teachings vary from First Nation to First Nation and even from one geographic region to another. For more information, please consult with a Traditional Elder, Healer or Medicine Person.

~

### FASTING

Fasting is one of the many ceremonies that has been practiced in First Nations communities for thousands of years. In the past, the Elders of a community would take the young people out to fast in order to help them find their direction in life. Today, as our cultural traditions and ways of healing are being revived in our communities, more Native people are seeking answers through the ceremony of fasting.

#### REASONS FOR GOING ON A FAST

When you choose to go on a fast, it is with a purpose in mind. You may go out to seek direction in your life or you may go out to learn more about our ways and about Creation. You may fast for your spirit name and colors. Healers may fast in order to find and gain permission to use a certain plant medicine. You may fast for many other reasons. Whatever the reason for your fast, you prepare yourself beforehand through prayer and tobacco. It is said that when you fast

you are sacrificing yourself for all, for your family and for your community, by denying yourself the basic comforts of shelter, water, nourishment and companionship.

#### DIFFERENT PLACES AND WAYS FASTS ARE CONDUCTED

Fasts are conducted in many different ways and in many different places. You may be put out to fast deep in the woods, in a field, on an island or a mountain.

Fasters may stay in a fasting lodge that they themselves have constructed of saplings and tarps, they may sit on a platform in a tree with a tarpaulin to keep them dry if it rains, or they may stay in a fasting hut. Wherever they spend their one, two, three or more days of fasting, they will bring with them medicines – tobacco, cedar, sage, sweetgrass or other plant medicines that may be used in their region and their sacred items such as a drum, pipe, smudge bowl, feathers and ribbons of their colors.

Spring and fall are generally the times for fasting. Some teachings say that you fast in the fall to take away negative energy and you fast in the spring to replenish yourself with new energy. Healers and Elders say that fasting has a cleansing and healing effect. Fasting has also been described as a healing way where the first person we face when we fast is ourselves. People may fast either in the spring or fall of each year.

Offerings are made before the fast. This may be food offer-

ings as well as tobacco. Very often, fasters will go into the sweat lodge before they are taken out to their spot and later, when they are brought from their fast. The fasting conductor lets the fasters know the duration of their fast through the connection he or she has with the spirit world.

Firekeepers tend the sacred fire at the base camp for the duration of your fast. The person who has put you on your fast looks after you while you are out.

Your fasting site may be encircled with cedar and with tobacco ties. You might build a sacred fire at your site where you offer your tobacco. However your fasting site is set up, you are in the care of Mother Earth and of our First Family.

#### FASTING EXPERIENCE

Everything you see on a fast is important, even little bugs around your fasting area. You may find yourself feeling closer to the sky world than you have ever felt before when the sacred light from the moon and stars brightens the night sky. You may gain an increased awareness of the beauty of the natural world, our First Family.

Your dreams and visions are all part of the journey. It is said that fasting brings you closer to the spirit world and that your spirit wakes up when you are on a fast. You may feel that the questions you are asking have been answered.

When you are on your fast, you have your sacred items with you – your drum so that you can sing the traditional songs you have learned and the sacred medicines to help you in your prayers. It is said that when you call on the spirits with a song, they will hear it and come to help you.

#### ENDING A FAST

At the end of a fast, when the person who has taken you out to fast comes to get you, you may be taken into a sweat lodge where you have the opportunity to talk about your fasting experience. Your fast may be ended by drinking spring water or cedar water and berries. A Traditional Feast is prepared for the fasters in celebration of the spiritual journey the fasters have experienced.

#### FASTING CONDUCTORS

The conductor of fasts has been trained and has earned the right to take people out on a fast. The conductor does this in a certain way, in the way that he or she has been taught. The conductor of a fast is able to tell you the Traditional teachings of the fast they are taking people out on.

The fasting conductor should be informed of any health condition you have before you go on a fast.

The conductor of a fast watches over the physical and spiritual well-being of the fasters whom he or she takes out to fast.

The conductor of a fast should be able to interpret the dreams, visions and gifts that have come to you and to offer guidance about your fasting experience.

~

As our awareness and knowledge of our traditions and culture increases, so does our honor and respect for these ways. This has not always been the case in our communities. There are always those who present themselves as Healers, Elders or Medicine People who have not earned that title and may use the Teachings and medicines in the wrong way. It is important for everyone, especially young people, to be aware of this and to exercise caution when they seek healing, Teachings or advice. It is advisable to consult with people whom you trust to get referrals to respected and recognized Traditional Elders, Healers, or Medicine People.

This information along with other teachings published in the "Currents" is made possible by "Anishnawbe Health Toronto".

For more information on these teachings and the program, you can contact De-wayne Boyer by phone at 416-360-0486





## Community Healing Starts with Each Individual and Our Relationships



February 28th, 2006 – Sheri Hunt, the LRBOI Family Violence Case Worker met Ms. Angie Noriega when she attended the State of Michigan Victims Advocacy Training in Lansing. Ms. Angie Noriega is the Director of the Domestic Violence Center at Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. The program is titled Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan (Under the Eagle's Wing). Angie is a dynamic leader in the field of Violence Prevention. With a Masters degree in Criminal Justice, she has been leading the Saginaw Chippewa project on Violence Prevention that opened a new facility for Tribal Members and members of the com-

munity that includes a shelter for victims of abuse.

Sheri invited Ms. Noriega to come to LRBOI to present some elements of Domestic Violence, healthy families and relationships to the Seven Grandfathers. The gathering was titled "Community Healing Starts with Each Individual and Our Relationships"; she also spoke about some of the healing programs that are now available at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe. One of the community activities that are hosted by the center is the construction of a cradleboard for couples that are expecting or thinking of starting a family. In this program, men are taught how to make the wooden elements of the traditional baby carrier while women create the leather and beaded elements for the cradleboard. Through this activity, elders have the opportunity to teach young people about a traditional craft while at the same time opening the lines of communication between two (soon to be three!) generations. They give teachings on good parenting, tell their own stories about children and family and talk about a healthy family life. This project promotes togetherness within a young couple through the creation of a cradleboard and also encourages the building of community ties. There are many programs like this one that can be utilized to teach and deal with healthy family living. Having a

guest speaker, along with the presentation of local resources, is one way to have our members be aware of what is available at our tribe and what resources we can tap into together.

At LRBOI the local resource for Family Violence is Sheri Hunt, Case manager who serves to assist those families needing help with advocacy through the legal or court systems, need a safe house or locating and accessing our tribal or local services and agencies.

Bob Stone offered a prayer to all that were present before starting the meal.

The presentation was followed by a dinner prepared and presented by the Gibson family. Kudos to Stella Gibson, the fry bread was great as always!

The Family Services Department organized this presentation; the Family Violence Grant received by the Family Services Department sponsored it.



## March is Parent Awareness Month

### TIPS FOR PARENTS TO AVOID ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, OR OTHER DRUG PROBLEMS IN CHILDREN

#### - TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN.

Give accurate information. Start early and keep talking.

#### - LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN.

You will learn what they are dealing with and what they need to know.

- STATE CLEARLY that you do not want and do not expect your child to use alcohol.

#### - TOBACCO, OR OTHER DRUGS.

All are illegal for underage children.

- BE AWARE OF AND DISCUSS alcoholism in the family, or other factors that put your children at risk.

#### - BUILD ON THE ASSETS IN YOUR CHILD, FAMILY, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY.

Every child, family, school, and community has strengths and positive qualities to celebrate and nurture.

#### - HAVE FAMILY RULES.

Enforce them and carry out logical and clearly stated consequences.

#### - HELP YOUR CHILD DEAL WITH MEDIA, PEER, & SOCIAL PRESSURES.

Rehearse with them how to make a good decision, say "no," and avoid risky situations. Participate in and discuss TV, movies, and music with them.

#### - PROVIDE GOOD ROLE MODELING.

Parent behavior is the biggest influence on a child's use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs.

#### - START EARLY BY PREVENTING TOBACCO USE.

Tobacco is a highly addicting drug. Many children try tobacco at an early age and become hooked. Smoking is also an indicator for later marijuana use and other risky behaviors.

#### - EMPHASIZE THE RISKS OF ALCOHOL.

A child's belief that a drug is harmless or acceptable increases their risk of using. Emphasize that alcohol—

- is illegal for persons under 21
- is immediately harmful to health
- alters judgment and perception
- has effects which interfere with physical, emotional and social growth and brain development
- can cause inappropriate, risky, and unintended behavior, and dependence, addiction, and death from intoxication.

#### - KNOW WHAT YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING

The people they associate with, what they do after school, what's in their bedroom.

#### - KNOW YOUR CHILDREN'S FRIENDS AND THEIR PARENTS.

Supervise activities and afterschool hours.

#### - TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN EVEN IF YOU HAVE USED ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, OR OTHER DRUGS YOURSELF.

- Don't lie, but don't dwell on the subject either.
- Avoid discussion which could glamorize use, or give an unintended "I survived, you can too" Message.
- Stress that today we know better about the hazards of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.
- If you smoke, express your wish that you were not dependent.
- Say the discussion is not about your past mistakes, but about mistakes your child must avoid

#### - HUG YOUR CHILDREN AND TELL THEM THAT YOU LOVE THEM!

Their world is not an easy place to be in; they need your supervision & your love.

2006 Parenting Awareness Month Organizers' Packet

Prepared by Prevention Network, June 1998; Updated April 2004.



Do you have a problem?

City of Ann Arbor Police Department

Look at this simple self-test to find out! Ask Yourself...

If you are concerned about being abusive with your partner, ask yourself these questions and consider them as warning signs of a problem:

Was there violence in your family?

During conflict do you often threaten someone, break things, punch walls, slam doors, ignore her, or leave?

Do you have mood swings, where one moment you feel loving and affectionate, and the next moment angry and threatening?

Have you ever physically harmed your partner, or any past partners?

Do you find it difficult to talk to your partner about your feelings, your hopes, and your fears?

Do you tend to blame others for your behavior, especially your partner?

Are you a very jealous person?

Do you try to control how your partner thinks, dresses, who she sees, how she spends her time, how she spends her money?

Do you try to discourage her from seeing her friends or family?

Do you get angry or resentful when she is successful in a job or hobby?

Do your conversations quickly escalate into threats of separation or divorce?

Do you ever threaten to hurt her, yourself, or others, if she talks about leaving you?

Do you do or say things that are designed to make her feel “crazy” or “stupid”?

Do you blame alcohol, drugs, stress, or other life events for your behavior?

Do you feel guilty after aggressive behavior and strive for your partner’s forgiveness?

Do you think that you could never live without her, yet other times want her out?

Do you use sex, money, or other favors as a way to “make up” after conflict?

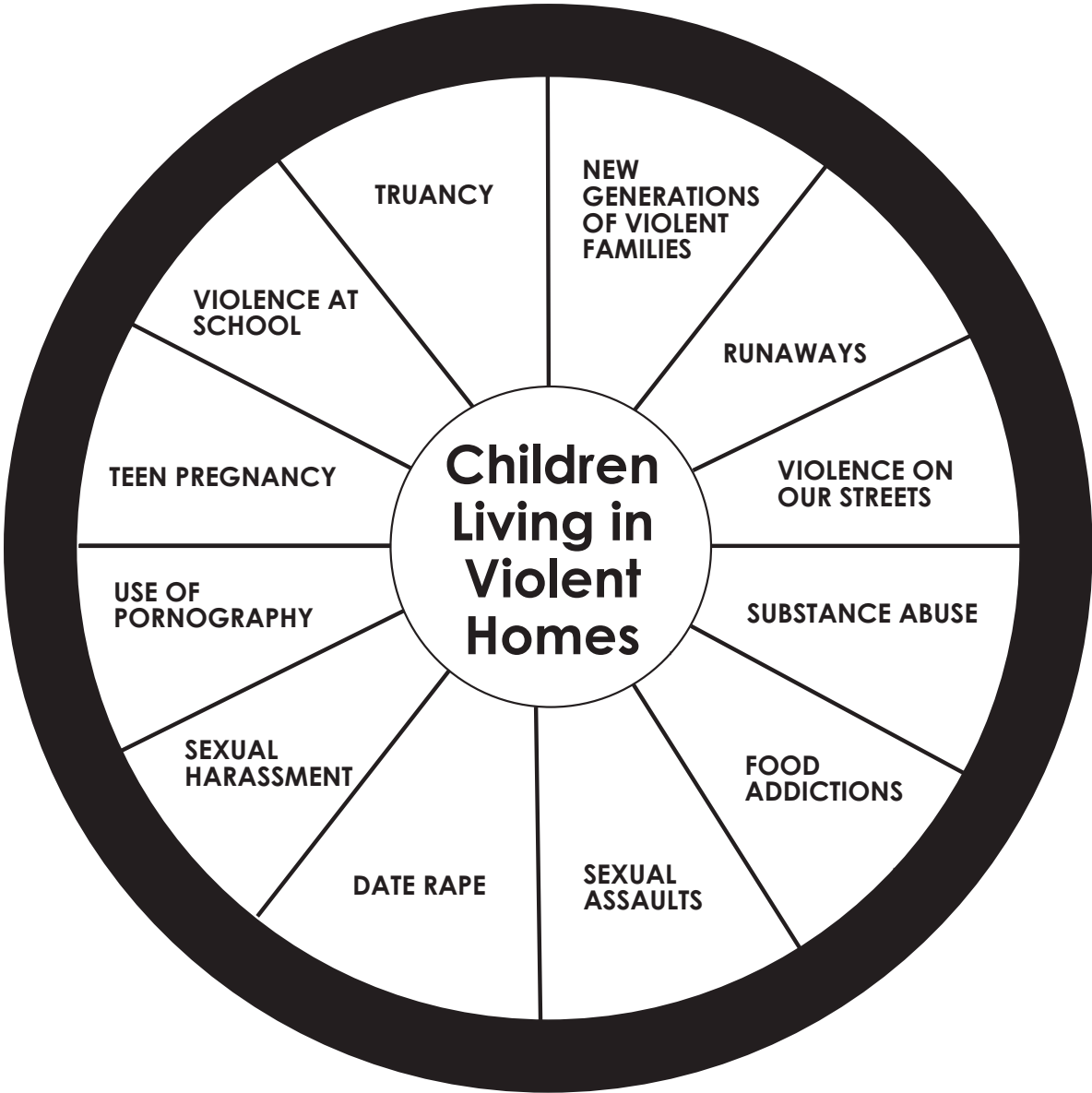
Have you ever said “don’t make me angry”?

Is your partner afraid of you sometimes?

For more information on this survey, visit;  
<http://www.ci.ann-arbor.mi.us/SafetyServices/Police/Self%20Test.htm>



CHILDREN COPING WITH FAMILY VIOLENCE



Developed from:  
Domestic Abuse Intervention Project  
202 East Superior Street  
Duluth, MN 55802  
218.722.4134

Produced and distributed by:



**NATIONAL CENTER**  
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## Sturgeon Rearing Program Expansion



**For Immediate Release**  
(February 27, 2006 Manistee, MI)

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has announced that they have retained Northern Environmental Technologies, Inc. to furnish four (4) portable Streamside Sturgeon Rearing facilities to bolster sturgeon populations in the Great Lakes. The facilities will be installed at locations on the Milwaukee and Manitowoc Rivers in Wisconsin and the Cedar and Whitefish Rivers in Michigan. This initiative is the result of efforts by a number of public and private entities, including the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust; the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians; Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and Northern Environmental Technologies, Inc. The project is funded by a grant from the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust.



Lake sturgeon as a species, were once abundant throughout the Great Lakes. They are an ancient, hardy species and individual fish can routinely live to be over 100 years old and weigh over 200 pounds. Sadly, the quality and abundance of suitable spawning habitat has been diminished. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has made the long term viability of this unique species a priority. These new facilities are an extension of the Tribe's ongoing efforts to bolster sturgeon populations and reclaim lost spawning habitat. To date those efforts have included research on the population status, furnishing and operating a streamside sturgeon rearing facility on the Manistee River and completion of a feasibility study to evaluate potential habitat reclamation plans for the river. Much more is planned to ensure that future generations benefit from these efforts.

The Tribe has utilized a streamside rearing facility to increase the number of viable juvenile sturgeon in the Manistee River since 2004. The Tribe uses streamside larvae (fry) rearing, as opposed to offsite hatcheries, in order to imprint the sturgeon with the unique physical and chemical characteristics of the river. This is done in order to preserve the distinct genetic identity of the river's spawning population.

The new facilities will carry this technique to rivers in Wisconsin and to Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The Departments of Natural Resources in Wisconsin and in Michigan will then take over operation of the facilities.

In 2004, Northern Environmental designed and built the original streamside rearing facility for the Little River Band. The Tribe's subsequent experience with the operation of the facility and continued collaboration with Northern Environmental have resulted in numerous improvements and refinements to the process. This investment by the Tribe and Northern Environmental led to a facility design that can be successfully implemented at multiple locations.



## Wildlife Society Annual Conference

Anchorage, AK September 23-27, 2006

The Native Peoples Working Group is offering travel scholarships to attend the Conference in Alaska (specifically the Tribal Symposium) for any Tribal member who is a student in Natural Resources.

The grant will pay for:  
Travel to and from Alaska;  
Registration for the conference;  
Hotel accommodations

If anyone is interested please contact:  
Nathan J. Svoboda - Wildlife Biologist  
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660  
Office (231) 723-1594 ext. 2188  
Cell (231) 690-3487  
[nsvoboda@lrboi.com](mailto:nsvoboda@lrboi.com)



## Lynn Piwonski

### Developing Strategic Partnerships Which Build Communities



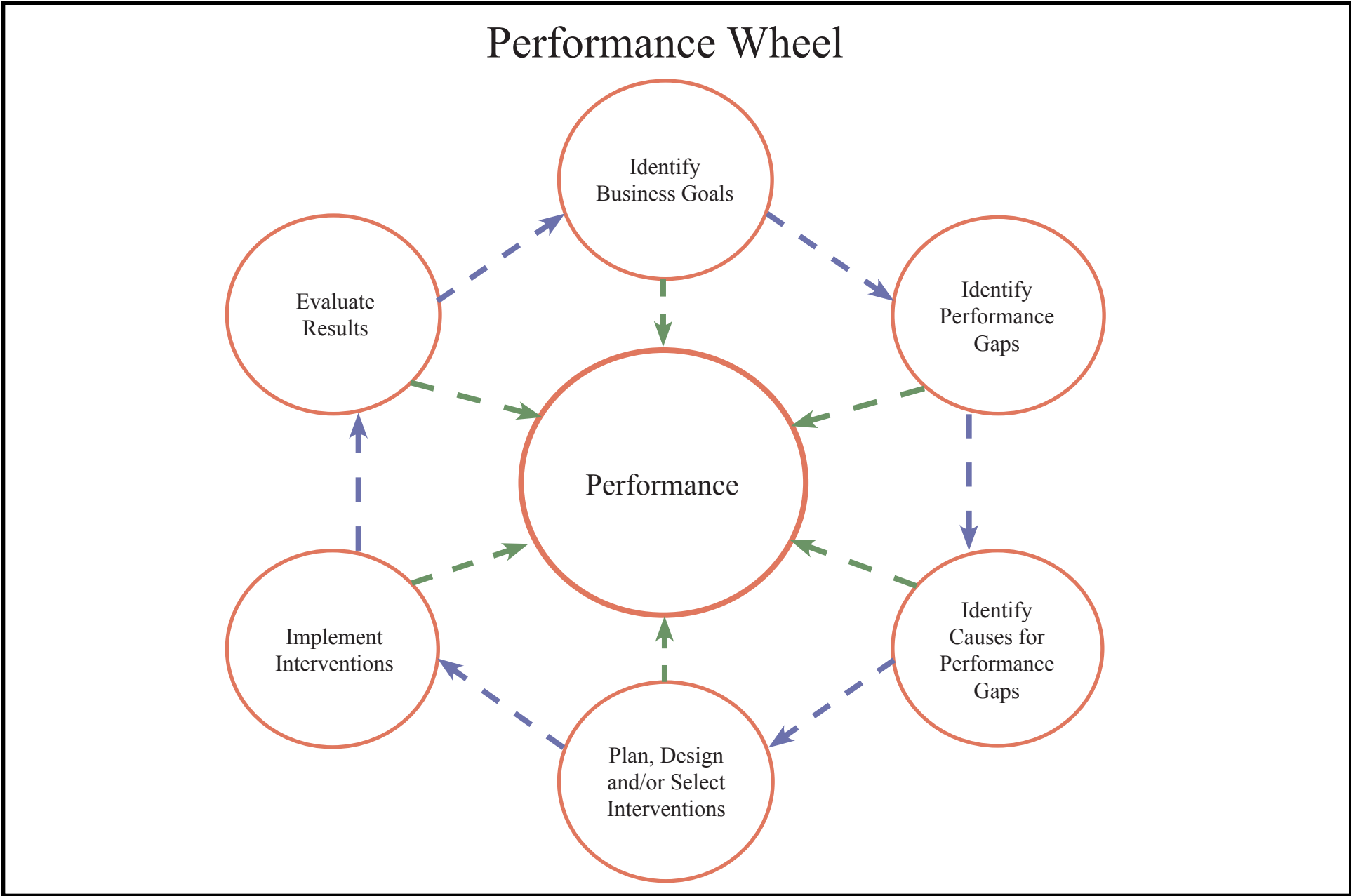
*Lynn Piwonski in her office at the Briny Building*

I recently had the chance to meet with Lynn Piwonski, a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians who has started her own workplace performance management consulting firm through the Small Business Incentive Program. Sitting in her new office on the second floor of the Briny Building, it was clear that she is very comfortable with her expertise and proud of her accomplishments. The sign on her door reads “Native Performance Consult-

ing” and although she will take any new clients, Native issues in workplace performance are her forte. Indeed, Lynn Piwonski has no shortage of experience and education specific to her newly founded company. She brings businesses and organizations expertise enhanced by her Native American background, her extensive counseling background and her performance management background. Her resume reads like a perfect blue print to success in management consulting, starting with a Masters degree in Rehabilitation Counseling and a Masters degree in Training and Development. As she pointed out herself: “understanding people and their personal view point, a skill I have mastered through the counseling work I have done, is a necessary part of organizational management consulting. I need to understand people and understand how they think before I can assist them with enhancing performance.” Mrs. Piwonski is also licensed as a professional counselor in Wisconsin, and recently became a certified member of

the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA). She is also proud to have recently received her National Minority Certification and to have been a presenter at the last NIGA conference. Her motto or “brand” is “Developing Strategic Partnerships Which Build Communities” She is determined to contribute in a positive way to the community by working with management to define, align, and implement people initiatives to benefit the business or entity. Lynn not only works with businesses, such as casinos, but also works with Tribal entities such as health clinics, social service programs, human resource departments, etc. Lynn Piwonski started to focus on performance work while working as an intern with the Oneida Tribe in Green Bay, Wisconsin. She conducted Career counseling and administered a workplace literacy grant with the goal of bringing employees’ skills in English, Reading and Math up to the level required by the organization. She then worked for the development division at the

Oneida Tribal Government, under Ernie Stevens, Sr.. She worked in performance management for approximately nine years before coming here to Manistee to work with her own Tribe and reside in the LRBOI reservation area. She was initially brought in to develop the employee skills at the Little River Casino Resort and also coordinated and administered project management training to the employees of the Casino; a project implemented for the first time since the casino opened. She was the Performance Manager at the casino for four years before recently branching out on her own as an independent consultant. We are proud to count her amongst the numbers of successful and ambitious people in the Manistee and Tribal communities. Members who have taken it upon themselves to follow their dreams and through hard work have achieved a higher standard of service for their community. Emily Drouin  
Public Information Department



## 2005/06 STUDENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

A student incentive program is being offered by the Michigan Indian Elders Association (M.I.E.A.) to recognize students who achieve all “A’s” for a marking period as well as students who achieve perfect attendance for a marking period. There will be a minimum of \$3,000 available to fund this program this year. At \$25 per award, there will be 120 winners who will be determined by lottery.

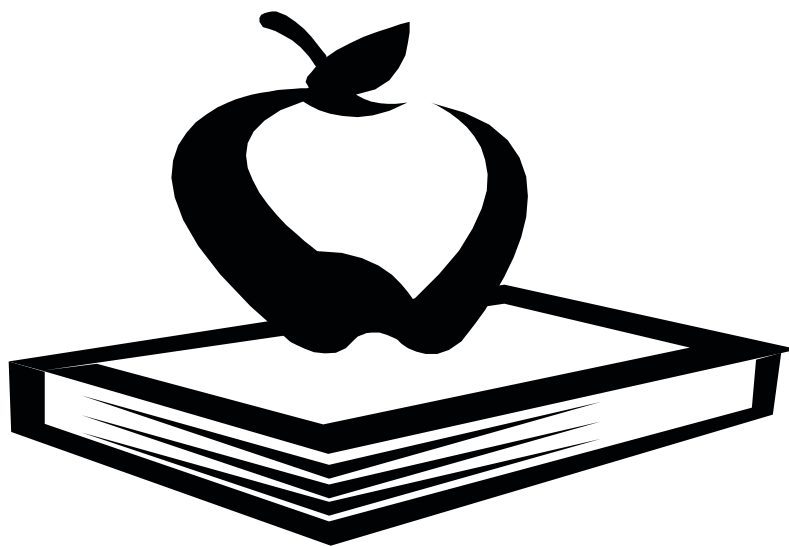
Here are the conditions to qualify:

- The student must be an enrolled member or be a direct descendant of an enrolled member of one of the M.I.E.A. constituent tribes/bands.
- The student must be in grades K-12 at a public or private school. (home schooling not eligible)
- A student must be in grades 4-12 to qualify for the straight “A” award. (A-, A, A+)
- For a school system that uses a grading system based on numbers, the equivalent to straight “A’s” will be acceptable.
- A student must be in grades K-12 to qualify for the perfect attendance award.
- Perfect attendance means exactly that. A student must be in school or at a school sponsored function each day of the marking period. Excused absences for anything other than a school sponsored/approved function do not constitute perfect attendance.
- The first two marking periods of this 2005/2006 school year (or the number of marking periods completed by March 1, 2006 for school systems having something other than four marking periods) will be used to determine the winners for this lottery.
- A student can qualify for both the perfect attendance and straight “A’s” for both marking periods. For example, straight “A’s” and perfect attendance for both marking periods would mean four chances to win.
- A parent of the student must complete and sign the Student Incentive Program Application Form in order for the student to qualify for an award.
- A copy of the child’s report card signed by the parent or a letter from an administrator of the student’s school, must be submitted with the completed application form to verify the achievement of straight “A’s” and perfect attendance.

The drawing to determine the winners will be held at the April 2006 meeting of the Michigan Indian Elders Association at Petoskey, MI.

The completed application form, a signed report card or verification letter of achievement from a school administrator and copy of students or parent’s tribal identification card must be received at the following address no later than March 24, 2006 :

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
Education Department  
7500 Odawa Circle  
Harbor Springs, MI 49740



## Be-Da-Bin Behavioral Health is looking for a new T-Shirt Logo



Be-Da-Bin Behavioral Health is looking for a new T-Shirt Logo for our annual Wellness Walk. We would like all interested tribal members to submit artwork to our department.

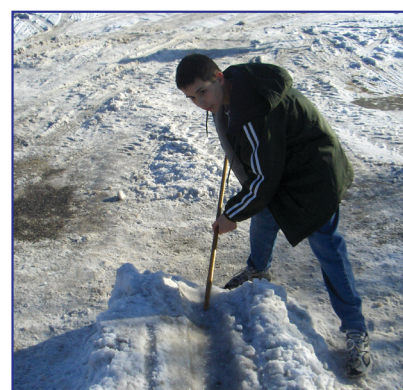
The deadline for submissions is April 3, 2006.

Your artwork can be of any design you wish. Please limit colors to four.

**The overall theme of the event is healthy lifeways and walking a sober path.**

If you have any questions please contact: Julie Wolfe, Prevention Specialist  
1-888-382-8299 or e-mail [jwolfe@lrboi.com](mailto:jwolfe@lrboi.com)





## 2006 Snowsnake Winners

The Cultural Preservation Committee would like to say "Kchi-miigwech" to everyone who participated in this year's annual Snowsnake classes and tournament. Over 50 people came together to make snowsnakes and then had fun racing them. The Committee appreciates and would like to thank this year's instructors, Art deBres and Brian Gibson, for their hard work, patience and dedication. Congratulations to the following list of this year's Snowsnake winners! Miigwech!

### Girls 0 – 4 Years:

1st place: Jasmine Cabarrubia  
2nd place: Jacquelyn Cabarrubia  
3rd place: No entrant

### Girls 5 – 7 Years:

1st place: Sydnie Thomas  
2nd place: Jalissa Cabarrubia  
3rd place: No entrant

### Girls 8 – 12 Years:

1st place: Jennifer Knapp  
2nd place: Lila deBres  
3rd place: Josclyn Cabarrubia

### Girls 13 – 17 Years:

1st place: Sunflower Wilson  
2nd place: Ashley Herzhaft  
3rd place: No entrant

### Women 18 – 54 Years:

1st place: Elizabeth Gibson  
2nd place: Toni Soleau  
3rd place: Jean Gibson

### Women 55 & Up:

1st place: Stella Gibson  
2nd place: Diane Lonn  
3rd place: Cindy Champagne

### Boys 0 – 4 Years:

1st place: Daniel deBres  
2nd place: Jesse James Cabarrubia  
3rd place: Christopher Willis

### Boys 5 – 7 Years:

1st place: Wabanung Bussey  
2nd place: Jacob Cabarrubia  
3rd place: No entrant

### Boys 8 – 12 Years:

1st place: Nathan Revolt  
2nd place: Andre Lewis  
3rd place: No entrant

### Boys 13 – 17 Years:

1st place: Joseph Rodriguez  
2nd place: Buddy Oleniczak  
3rd place: Al deBres

### Men 18 – 54 Years:

1st place: Brian Gibson  
2nd place: Mark McBain  
3rd place: Tony Rodriguez

### Men 55 & Up:

1st place: Jim Gibson  
2nd place: Phil Thomas  
3rd place: Jerry Champagne





## County Commissioner visits Tribal Council



March 8, 2006 -

The Tribal Council Session on March 8th was one that will go down in the history books as a Manistee County Commissioner came to visit.

Tribal Council Speaker Steve Parsons introduced Ms. Janice McCraner, County Commissioner from the 1st District (NW Manistee County) and Vice Chair of the Commission. Ms. McCraner brought gifts for each Council member and then spoke at length about the great opportunity that exists for partnering between the tribe, the county and other governmental bodies.

McCraner said that as elected officials “we all share a lot.” She proceeded to comment on the fact that Council members, just like County Commissioners are elected and serve as a body to make decisions which affect their constituents.

She also told how elected officials don’t always hear ‘what we need to hear’ from our communities and that is a good reason for ‘us to communicate and work together’ for the good of all the residents.

Commissioner McCraner then told how many people in the outside community do not understand the structure of the tribe and that the government and casino are actually separate, if related, entities. “People need to know the similarities between our forms of government,” she said. “Doing so, will help them to understand so that we can all benefit and work together.”

Ms. McCraner also told the Council that she and some of her fellow Commissioners would welcome the opportunity to sit in as possibly ad hoc (non-voting) members of some of the tribal committees to provide input from the outside community. She pointed out that the County Com-

mission has appointed tribal members and representatives to various boards already. Council Member Israel Stone expressed his pleasure at McCraner’s visit and said, “I very much appreciate that the hand of friendship has been extended.” He added that there are, “different opportunities where we can assist each other and that our Law Enforcement needs to have the same discussion because there are benefits for both sides.” Stone extended an invitation, on behalf of Council, for McCraner and other Commissioners to attend other tribal meetings and said that, we “need to work for our common goals.”

Council members including Elaine Porter, Janine Sam, Steve Parsons, Kim Alexander and Shannon Crampton echoed the sentiment that they appreciated the visit, the gifts and were looking forward to the possibilities of working together.



## Moon Bear Pottery & Indian Arts Coldwater, MI

The piece seen here is called “Red Wing Blackbird” It has sweet grass and sinew woven into its top rim, and its sides are decorated with carved cattails and the Red Wing Blackbird. It can be used as a vase, or has a hole in the back to allow it to be hung on a wall. It is about 9 inches tall.

Shirley M. Brauker owns *Moon Bear Pottery and Indian Arts* in Coldwater, Michigan.

She can be reached at: [moonbear@cbpu.com](mailto:moonbear@cbpu.com)  
You can also visit her web site:

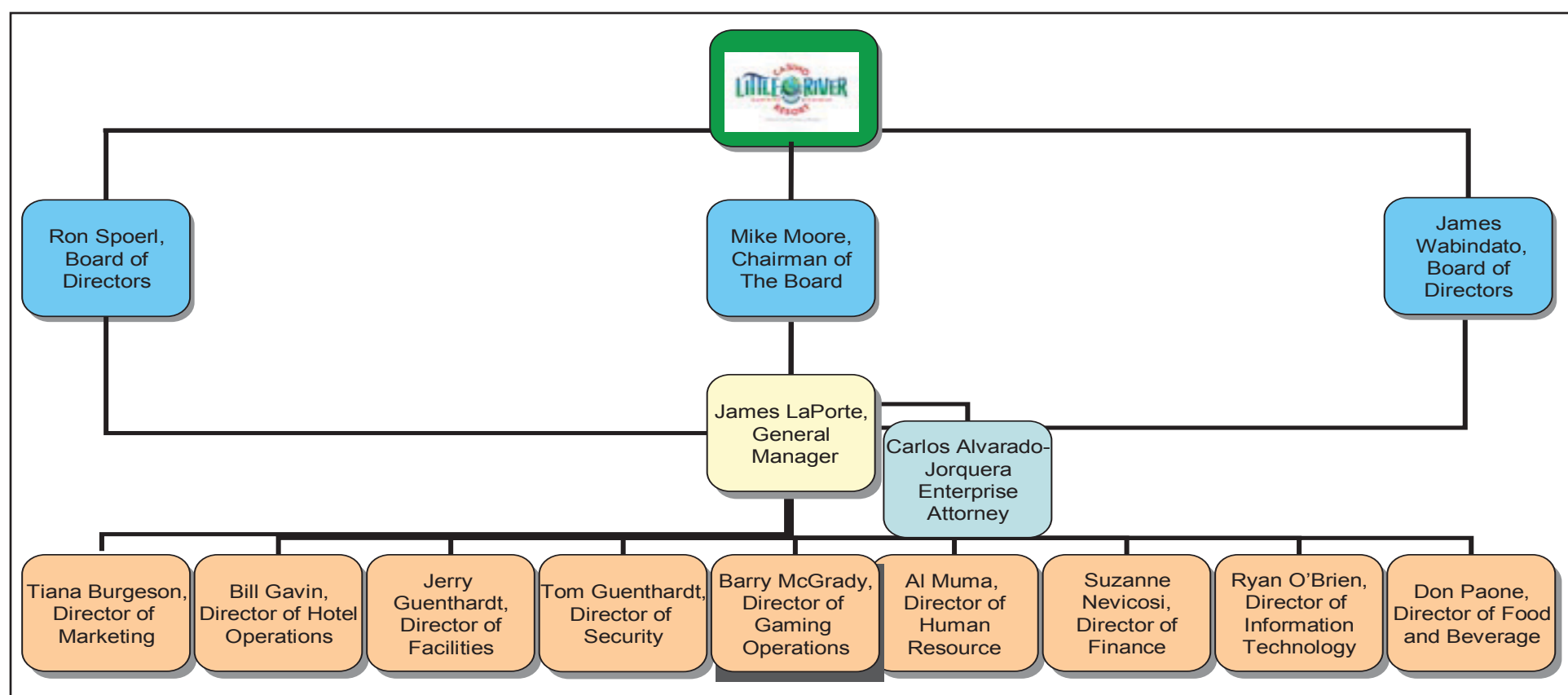
<http://www.cbpu.com/moonbear>





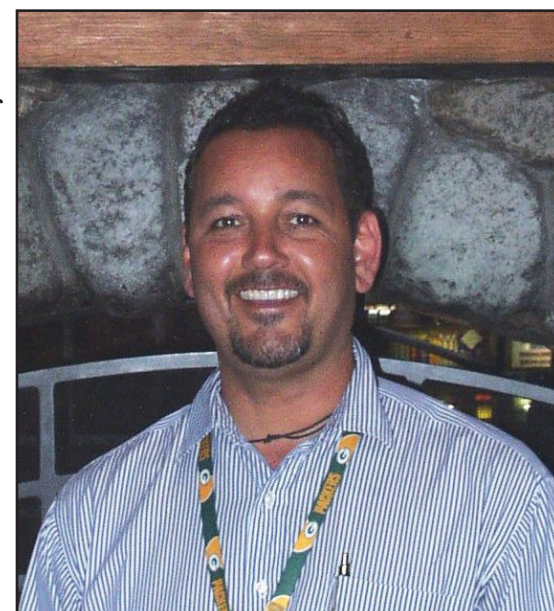
## Little River Casino Resort Organizational Structure

### Who are the people who make it all possible?



### James LaPorte General Manager

James obtained an MBA with a concentration in Finance in 1992 from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. He also holds a Bachelors Degree in Arts with a concentration in Business Administration and Economics from Augsburg College in Minneapolis, MN. James carries 20+ years of Business Management experience. During the period from 1984 to 1993, he was responsible for the duties of a Marketing Manager, Regional Operations Manager and then Vice President of Operations for a multi-business development company. James held the Executive Vice President/C.F.O position from 1993 until 1997, later becoming Managing Director, as well as serving on the Board of Directors, for Dominion Energy, a public company listed on the London Stock Exchange. He served as President and member of the Board of Directors of Triad Innovations from 1997 until 2001. From 2001 to his present position, he owned and managed a privately held company in Dallas Texas. Since coming to LRCR, James has been the Director of Finance, Interim General Manager and currently, the General Manager.



### James Wabindato Board of Directors

James currently lives in Flagstaff, Arizona with his wife Liz, and two daughters, Isabella (4 yrs) and Olivia (10 months), and has recently joined Century21 to sell real estate.

A native of Muskegon, MI, James received a Bachelors of Arts degree from the University of Michigan, where he was active in the Native American Student Association. Upon graduation, James began working for the U of M Business School, where he ran the MBA Domestic Corps internship program. James has worked for two different tribes; first the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians as the Community & Economic Development Director, then for the Bad River Band of Chippewa as the Realty Director. After leaving Bad River, he began selling real estate with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Milwaukee, and has recently received his real estate license in Arizona.

The professional accomplishment that James is most proud of was the restoration of one-fifth of the Bad River Reservation land base to the Tribe and its community. Over the course of a year and a half, \$6,000,000 in financing was assembled and roughly 26,000 acres of vacant land was purchased within the Reservation boundaries. The government bond issued is one of the few ever conducted for an Indian tribe in the Midwest.

James' future goals are: to continue to develop his real estate practice, including property management and real estate development; to develop financial tools that will make community and economic development throughout Indian Country more accessible; and to create a consulting company.



### Ron Spoerl Board of Directors

Married for 12 years with three boys, Ron is the owner of two companies in Wisconsin. He serves as the President and CEO of Hawk Construction, LLC and Hawk Development, LLC. Mike also serves on the Board of Directors for the American Indian Chamber of Commerce in Wisconsin and as a Chairperson for the CGA in Wisconsin, bringing Engineering, Utility and Contracting companies together. He is a current member of the Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association and the Damage Prevention Council.





## **Mike More** **Chairman of the Board**

Married to Marissa with three children (daughter Kelsey – 19, son Connor – 12 and daughter Peyton – 5), Mike graduated from Ferris State University in 1984, receiving his Bachelor of Science and Associates in Automotive Management. He also received Management Certificates from the General Motors University. Mike is currently a Leader Band Executive on his eighth assignment with General Motors in 21 years. He currently serves as a Zone Manager in the Southeast Region. Together with 13 District Sales, Service, Parts and Finance Managers, \$724 million is generated in gross vehicle sales revenue for General Motors (equally approximately 40,000 vehicles), \$61 million in parts revenue and approximately 40% of total sales is financed. Mike is responsible for managing a Marketing/Advertising budget \$9 million, a Promotional budget of \$149,000, and a Warranty budget of \$4.6 million per month.



## **Tiana Burgeson** **Director of Marketing**

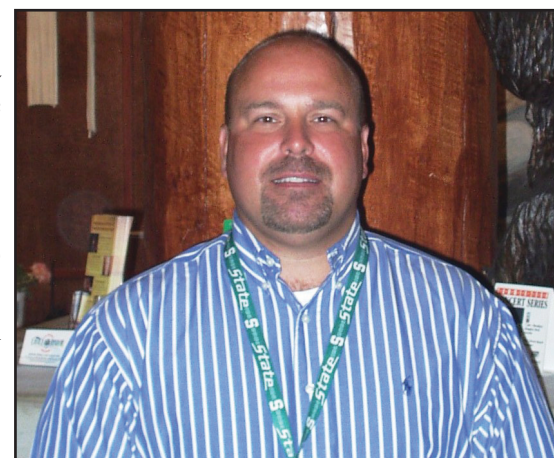
Tiana has had 11 years of experience working in marketing, public relations, and the political arena. In 1992 Tiana took time off from her schooling and worked as the Information Specialist for Great American Media, a subset of Greer, Margolis, Mitchell, Grunwald & Associates, an advertising and public relations firm based in Washington DC. Tiana then returned to school and graduated with a Bachelors Degree from Michigan State University in 1995. From 1996 to 1997 Tiana worked as the Media Relations Coordinator for QRS Newsmedia and was directly involved with clients including the Clinton/Gore campaign, the Presidential Inaugural Committee, The Body Shop and the World Wildlife Fund. In 1997 she worked with the public relations firm Fleishman/Hillard in Los Angeles. In 1998 Tiana was the Assistant to the Executive Director of the Lear Family Foundation and worked with Producer/Director Norman Lear organizing book parties and managing political contributions. In 1999 she worked for the Burbank Airport Authority before returning to her home state of Michigan. Tiana's most recent 6 ½ years have been working for the Little River Casino Resort as a Dealer, Special Events Coordinator, Marketing Manager, Interim Marketing Director and Marketing Director. Tiana is currently the President of the Manistee Economic Council Chamber Alliance Board of Directors and serves on the Ludington Chamber board.



## **Bill Gavin** **Director of Hotel Operations**

Bill has been a hospitality professional for over 18 years, with experience in some of the industries best upscale hotels, including The Ritz Carlton, Hilton, Starwood and Radisson. He has participated in an International Training Program at the Imperial palace Hotel (a five diamond facility) in Tokyo, Japan. Bill's business skills have developed through these companies with steady discipline, competent decision making, proper planning and leadership, allowing him to acquire a track record of success. Bill has proudly achieved success as the General Manager for the Four Points Sheraton Denver and Embassy Suites Minneapolis Downtown and currently as Director of Hotel Operations for the Little River Casino Resort.

Most recently, Bill has been awarded certification as a Certified Hotel Administrator, which attests to his successful completion of the knowledge and experience requirements, reflecting a commitment to maintaining the highest standards of competence as a hospitality professional. Bill's management philosophy is to treat everyone with respect, foster an environment of trust and fun, which in turn drives business results. He has been fortunate to have had many excellent mentors along the pathway of his career and now spreads his knowledge and experiences with future hospitality professionals.



## **Tom Guenthardt** **Director of Security**

Tom graduated in 1984 from West Shore Community College with an Associate Degree in Applied Arts and Science, Law Enforcement. He owned and operated Guenthardt Sawmill between 1984 and 1996. From 1996 until 1998 he served as the Natural Resource Coordinator, as well as, Tribal liaison for the Michigan Tribal Environmental Group with the United States EPA, Region 5. During this time, Tom wrote and administered the Recycle Grant for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. He also served as the only Conservative Captain from 1996 until 1999, coordinating with four other Tribes to develop uniform hunting and fishing codes and regulation. Between February 1999 and November 1999, Tom served as the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Public Safety Director, writing and receiving COPS Grant. During the time from 1997 until 2000, Tom was employed with the Little River Gaming Commission as Vice Chair, whereas responsibilities included approving and issuing all gaming and vendor licenses for current Casino. From 1991 until 2001, he was the Background Investigator, investigating all vendors and employees for LRCR. Tom's Special Training includes: 1999 EPA Air Quality Inspector Certified, 1998 Coast Guard Commercial Vessel Inspection Certified, 1997 Ice Water Rescue Certified, 1990 to present Firefighter, 1986 to present Licensed Foster Care Provider, 1993 to present State Licensed Emergency Medical Technician.





## **Jerry Guenthardt** **Director of Facilities**

Jerry's background includes Military Service with the United States Army. In his 20+ years in the Building Trades, he has served as Field Superintendent and Project Manager, designing and estimating projects from concept to completion. During this time, Jerry has experience coordinating with project engineers, budgets and project time constraints. He has currently served Little River Casino Resort for five+ years as Director of Facilities.



## **Don Paone** **Director of Food and Beverage**

Don has been with LRCR since March of 2004. Originally hired as the Food and Beverage Training Specialist, he was promoted to the Director of Food and Beverage in December of 2005. Don has over 30 years experience in the food industry, having worked and trained in almost every position in the industry. He is a self trained Chef and baker, as well as a food enthusiast.

Don also has a strong background in Training and Development and Performance Enhancement Technology as a result of his many assignments and years of project management in the food industry environment. As a New Jersey native, the majority of his experience is in contract feeding accounts, such as Wall Street, Advertising and Law Firms, Schools and Colleges and many world corporate headquarter accounts in the New York Metropolitan area. Don has held many positions with numerous national corporations, including Director of Training and Development, Special Projects Coordinator, New Account Specialist, Catering Manager and Director of Dining Services.

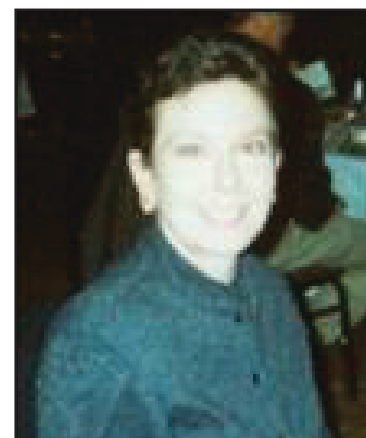
Don has also run a number of his own businesses including, Wedding Consultation, Organizational Development Consultation, Training and Development services, Catering companies and his own gourmet Deli, Bakery and Coffeehouse business in Michigan for ten years.

Dons continues to concentrate his focus on effective performance enhancement and strong employee development programs in his role as Food and Beverage Director for LRCR.



## **Suzanne Nevicosi** **Director of Finance**

Suzanne is a native of Peru, Illinois. She graduated from Eureka College, summa cum laude, with a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Business. She has 25 years casino accounting/finance background. Suzanne has held positions of Accountant, Internal Auditor, Controller, Director of Finance, and CFO. She has worked in both established and new gaming jurisdictions, including: Northern Nevada, Southern Nevada, Southern Mississippi, Northern Mississippi, Iowa, and Michigan. She has also been involved in the opening of new casino properties.



## **Al Muma, SPHR** **Director of Human Resources**

Al Muma, Director of Human Resources for Little River Casino Resort (LRCR), Manistee, Michigan, has more than eight years of progressive human resources generalist experience. Al has held a variety of Human Resources positions including working for Hewitt Associates, a leading global human resources outsourcing and consulting firm. During his tenure at Hewitt, he worked in the Benefits Administration practice. His role as an Associate included managing a client team of Participant Services Coaches for a Fortune Five Hundred customer, and as a dedicated trainer. While at Hewitt Al was a nominated and served as a member of Top Gun, a leadership development committee. He also has 10 years of hospitality management experience with Marriott International.

Al received his B.S. in Liberal Arts from Northern Michigan University, and has attained the highest professional certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR). Al is currently nearing the completion of his MBA degree (concentration in Human Resources Management) through Baker College, Baker Center for Graduate Studies. He is a national member of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), and local member of the Traverse Area Human Resource Association (TAHRA). Al also serves as Diversity Advocate on the TAHRA Leadership Board. He has attended and received certification for many human resources related seminars including Disney Institute's People Management Seminar, Langevin's Training Manager Certification, and HR Generalist Certificate Program by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).



## **Barry McGrady** **Director of Gaming Operations**

Barry is the Director of Gaming Operations at Little River Casino Resort and has received a BS degree in Management from the University of Mary. He is currently pursuing a MBA in Management. Barry has been in the gaming industry for thirteen years, with a specialty in Slot Operations and Performance. Past and current activities in the gaming industry include planning and development committees, marketing committees, strategic planning committees, policy committees and executive committees at three casino properties.





## Ryan O'Brien Director of Information Technology

Ryan O'Brien has more than 15 years experience in the Information Technology arena. Spending his first 5 years in small business I.T. consulting, he was one of the first in the Manistee-Mason area to embrace the Microsoft Windows NT platform and Microsoft Networking technologies. Ryan then worked in the manufacturing industry as the Manager of Information Technology for FloraCraft Corporation in Ludington, Michigan. He transformed FloraCraft's single System 36 mainframe system to a 5 location WAN connected Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.

In the year 2000, Ryan became the Network Administrator for the Little River Casino Resort. During his time as Network Administrator, he received the honor of Supervisor of the Quarter. Ryan became the Director of Information Technology for the Little River Casino Resort in November 2005 after serving as Acting I.T. Director for the prior 8 months. As the Director of Information Technology, Ryan has and will continue to provide the executive board with much needed technical expertise and guidance.



## Tribal Member Highlight - Juli Compeau Human Resource Executive Administrative Assistant



Juli Compeau has quickly adapted to her new role as the HR Executive Administrative Assistant at the Little River Casino Resort. Juli's supervisor, Al Muma LRCR's Human Resource Director stated that "Juli is very conscientious about her work and always strives to do an excellent job."

Juli was raised in Ludington and is the youngest of five children (four girls and one boy) born to Arlene and the late Jesse Compeau. Her sisters Pam, Marsha and Janis also work for the tribe. She attended school in Ludington and prior to her employment with LRCR worked at Jackpine Business Center and also as a bartender and waitress because she enjoys people

and found that the money was good. In May 1999 Juli attended a job fair for tribal members and was contacted by Jerry Guenthardt and offered a position in the shipping and receiving department. Juli was one of the casino's first employees. She began in June of 1999 as S/R Clerk with the task of developing the S/R department and was promoted after three months to Receiving Supervisor. Juli recalled how great both Jerry G. and Dave Schultz were in supporting her and providing opportunities for her to develop at LRCR. In July 2000 Juli began a new position in the Gaming Department. She was the Gaming Operations Administrative Assistant.

In September 2001 Juli was chosen to be the first tribal member to participate in the Leadership Development Program (LDP). LDP was a developmental opportunity for tribal members to gain broad experience within the casino industry. Juli worked in several departments including Gaming, Marketing, Cage, Finance, and HR. She also attended the Global Gaming and NIGA Conferences, the Michigan Indian Gaming Summit, toured Turtle Creek and Soaring Eagle Casinos and completed the Dale Carnegie course. After successfully completing the LDP in October 2002, Juli worked as the Direct Mail/Advertising Coordinator in the Marketing Department un-

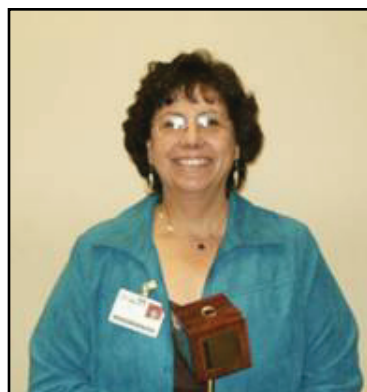
til her promotion in October 2005.

Juli has always been interested in continuing her education and began taking classes at West Shore Community College in 1991. Being a single mother to children Lynsey (now 21-living in Kalamazoo) and Branden (17- at home) often meant working two jobs, which put school on hold until the kids were older. Although Juli states that she loves what she is doing right now, her goal is to complete her Associate Degree in Criminal Justice and eventually work as a Probation/Parole Officer. Juli was on the most recent Dean's List with a semester GPA of 3.92! Juli expressed her thanks to the tribe for the educational time allowance which gives her the flexibility to work and attend classes.

Juli also expressed her gratitude to Al Muma for his support and encouragement.

In her spare time, Juli's passions include remodeling her home, horses (she'd love to own a horse ranch someday) and motorcycles. Juli stated, "God has his way of changing things in a heartbeat...so I don't get too comfortable." Those of us who have had the opportunity to spend time with Juli truly value her spirit and perseverance and wish her the very best.

## Congratulations to Tribal Member Linda Andre



Congratulations to LRBOI tribal member Linda Andre, Direct Marketing Manager for being presented the Traveling Trophy for the first quarter of 2006! Linda was chosen by the trophies previous recipient, Don Paone, Food & Beverage

Director based on the tenets of the trophy: Leader, Resourceful, Committed and Respectful.

Don's praise for Linda included the following statements.

- I admire your day to day work ethic, intensity and ability to be forthright, flexible and focused. It is rare that I can walk by your office and not see you in there, regardless of the time of day or night.

- You always seem to know what is going on, or are willing to find out if you don't know.

- You are responsive to requests in a very timely manner regardless of your work load.

- You are never afraid to speak up and contribute to a process or meeting. You have a knack for concentrating on the important issues that may be in the process of being disregarded or overlooked.

- You are creative and always look for ways to solve problems.

- You are incredibly focused on the success of the resort and view the property as a whole team striving towards one goal.

- You are genuinely honest and approachable. You have always embodied an exemplary Internal

Customer Service attitude with me and with those whom I observe you interacting.

Linda also recently received recognition from Ferris State University where she is working on a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing. For the academic year 2005-06 she earned "Outstanding Achievement of a Cumulative Honor Point Average of Three Point Five or Above." We're proud of you Linda!





Little River Casino Resort

Look what's Rolling  
at the River



**SIPI-Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute**  
*SIPI is an accredited National Indian Community College and Land Grant Institution serving American Indians and Alaskan Natives. Between September 2003 and August 2005 the Little River Casino Resort collaborated with SIPI to offer 18 General Education classes via Distance Learning to LRBOI tribal members. The following LRBOI tribal members earned college credits through this workplace educational opportunity.*

|                              |                                       |                            |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| *Angela Martin – 28 credits  | *Pam Johnson – 20 credits             | *Josh Kitter—24 credits    |
| *Lena Wolfe – 11 credits     | *Gail Lamorandier-Morris – 21 credits | *Tim Chandler—3 credits    |
| *Carmen Baron – 12 credits   | *Richard Sprague – 15 credits         | *Juli Compeau – 7 credits  |
| *Peggy Vriesman – 17 credits | *Howard Koone – 43 credits            | *Verna Wolfe – 25 credits  |
| *Corinna Kline – 7 credits   | *Sandy Lempke-Mezeske – 5 credits     | *Venus Wilson – 9 credits  |
| *Sally Jobes – 17 credits    | *Jessica Macklam – 8 credits          | *Vikki Glover – 30 credits |
| *Diana O’Neal – 6 credits    | *Susan Wabsis – 49 credits            | *Virginia Rose—3 credit    |

|   |
|---|
| <b>Little River Casino Resort has welcomed the following newly hired preference employees since December:</b> |
| Richard Medacco – Engineer<br>Calvin Garrett – Engineer<br>Charles Gaul —Wardrobe<br>Gregory Hayes—Banquets   |

|  |
|--|
| <b>Previously at LRCR and now employed by LRBOI:</b>                                     |
| *Angela Eagle --7 credits<br>*Dawn Smith – 20 credits<br>*Janelle Lyndemann – 17 credits |

|  |
|--|
| <b>Preference Employees at LRCR celebrating “Years of Service” Anniversaries in April include:</b> |
| · Christy Exo<br>April 25 – Seven Years  |
| · DuWayne Alberts<br>April 16 – Four Years   |
| · Leisa Kennedy<br>April 8 – Three Years   |
| · Russell Morris<br>April 1 – One Year   |
| · Venus Wilson<br>April 14 – One Year  |
| · Krystal Davis<br>April 25 – One Year   |

Interviewing Tips  
Skillful and Succesful Interviews

Given equal qualifications, the difference between a successful candidate and an unsuccessful one is the ability to interview skillfully. A successful and skillful interview requires some preparation. It is your chance to “shine”, your chance to let the company know that you can make a positive and significant contribution to their company. Here are some helpful hints to guide you in preparing for the interview and during the interview itself.

Before the interview:

1. Get a good night’s rest to ensure your alertness and confidence.
2. Dress neatly and appropriately. Blue jeans are generally not considered proper attire.
3. Do not drink a lot of caffeine, chew gum, smoke or use heavy cologne or perfume.
4. Turn off your cell phone
5. Arrive alone and at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled time of the interview. This will allow you time to freshen up and relax your nerves
6. Let the receptionist know that you are there for an interview. Put your best foot forward with everyone you come in contact with-they may be asked for their opinion of you!

During the interview:

1. Offer a firm handshake; smile and speak clearly when introducing yourself.
2. Use direct eye contact.
3. RELAX; be yourself
4. Show a sincere interest in the position
5. Be responsive, positive, and honest in your answers. If you do not understand a question ask for clarification.
6. Never make excuses or criticize former employers or co-workers
7. Be prepared to ask questions at the end of the interview if you would like more information about the position or company.
8. Thank the interviewer for considering you and ask when they expect to reach a decision and if it is ok to call and inquire. All employers have their own hiring process and you want to be sure that you are patient and know what to expect when they reach their decision.
9. Be as confident in your handshake at the end of the interview as you were when you arrived.
10. Within 72 hours send a Thank You note to the person who conducted the interview.

We hope these tips will help you be confident and prepared for your next job interview. Next month we will look at some alternate ways of job hunting that can set you on your way to satisfying employment.

## Commodity News for April, 2006

United State Department of Agriculture

MW s & CNP : FDPIR 1 Little River Band  
Patrick Wilson, Ogema  
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
375 River Street, Manistee, Michigan 49660

Dear Mr. Wilson:

This letter is in response to your supplemental funding request for Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations ( FDPIR ) Fiscal Year ( FY ) 2006 administrative budget.  
We have approved the supplemental funding request totaling \$ 1,498.00 for the purchase of a Windows-based computer system for use by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Food Distribution Program. We have adjusted your FDPRI FY 2006 administrative budget to reflect an increase of \$1,498.00. To date, the total amount of Federal funds approved for use in FY 2006 is \$ 49,782.00.  
As always, approval of your request is contingent upon the availability of funds. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Joseph Templin of my staff at ( 312 ) 353-1900.

Sincerely,  
Dan Whitmore, Acting Chief  
School & Community Nutrition Section  
Special Nutrition Programs  
Enclosure  
Cc: Yvonne Theodore, Director, FDPIR, Manistee, MI. w/encl

Yvonne Theodore will be attending the 19th National Association of Food Distribution On Indian Reservations seminar, in Seattle, Washington from April 22nd to April 28th, 2006. This will provide training on all aspects of the program, including new regulations, policy, procedures and software. Yvonne will attend Board meetings, Registration meeting, Resolution meeting, NAFDPIR business session, Regional Caucus w/ FNS, General sessions, AIS meeting, Site selection 2008 MWR and workshop sessions.

For more information call :

1-888-723-8288 or 1-231-398-7615 or 1-231-398-6716  
Ask for Yvonne Theodore or George Lawrence or Laurie Jackson  
Office hours are:  
8:00 A.M to 5:00 P.M

### Recipe: Cabbage Parmesan

- ¼ cup silvered almonds
- 1 medium head green cabbage
- ¼ cup butter or margarine
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 teaspoon Italian herb seasoning
- salt & pepper to taste
- 1/3 cup graded Parmesan cheese

Brown almonds in medium skillet over low heat, stirring occasionally to prevent burning. Remove and set aside. Cut cabbage into ½ inch slices and discard core.

Separate cabbage into strips and layer in skillet with butter, garlic, seasoning, salt, pepper. Cook over medium- high heat until tender, stirring frequently. Garnish with cheese and toasted almonds.

### Guideline Eligibility Chart

Food Distribution Program monthly income guidelines from the USDA .

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations net monthly income standards for the the Contiguous United States

( Effective October 1st. 2005 )

| Household Size                     | Income Limit |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1                                  | \$932.00     |
| 2                                  | \$1,204.00   |
| 3                                  | \$1,475.00   |
| 4                                  | \$1,747.00   |
| 5                                  | \$2,042.00   |
| 6                                  | \$2,335.00   |
| 7                                  | \$2,607.00   |
| 8                                  | \$2,879.00   |
| Each additional member + \$ 272.00 |              |

The Food Distribution Program serves 13 counties:

Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Wexford, Osecola, Mecosta, Ottawa.  
For information call: 1-888-723-8288 or 1-231-398-6715 and 1-231-398-6716 ask for Yvonne Theodore or Frances Lawrence or Laurie Jackson. Office Hours are 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.



## LRBOI COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

### COMMISSIONS

**Binojeeuk Commission:** The purpose of this commission is to protect the best interests of the child and promoting the stability and security of the Tribe and its Indian families by exercising the Tribe's rights under the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Little River Band Children's Code. The Commission advises the Tribal Council and Tribal Court on child welfare matters, recommends policy and procedures, monitors child welfare proceedings involving Tribal members in state or Tribal courts, and other duties as outlined in the Children's Code. There are five (5) adult members of this body.

**Enrollment Commission:** This Commission is responsible for making determinations on enrollment applications, as well as advising the enrollment officer and Tribal Council regarding the enrollment process, to ensure that it is equitable and fair. The Commission has seven (7) members.

**Gaming Commission:** The Gaming Commission is the Tribe's Regulatory Agency that has authority over all gaming related activities within the Tribe's jurisdiction. The duties and powers are numerous, including but not limited to enforcement internal controls, licensure of Casino employees, adoption of regulations for the gaming enterprise, enforcement of gaming laws, regulations and policy. This Commission is comprised of three (3) adult members, and each commissioner is required to have a comprehensive background investigation prior to appointment to this body.

*Applications for appointment for these positions consist of a letter of interest and an application form which identifies the individual's personal and professional background. Applications for the positions also require a letter of interest to be filed with the Tribal Ogema.*

**Note:** *All Commissioners are required to sign a conflict of interest form.*

*Commission members receive a stipend of \$100.00 per meeting for their service to this important government function.*

**Housing Commission:** The Commission is organized to develop and further housing opportunities for Tribal members, to provide housing programs and services to Tribal members, assess the housing needs of the Tribe and to submit the Tribe's Annual Indian Housing Plan under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act. There are five (5) members of this commission, one member may be a non-member of the Tribe.

**Natural Resources Commission:** This body is empowered to regulate utilization of natural resources within the Tribe's jurisdiction, including hunting, fishing, gathering, trapping activities. The Commission recommends any additional ordinances to protect the natural resources, lands and waters within the Tribe's Reservation and Ceded Territory to Tribal Council. There are five (5) members of this Commission.

### COMMITTEES

#### Cultural Preservation Committee

The Committee organizes and approves cultural activities, including the annual Jingtamok.



## **SAVE THE DATE!**

**MANOOMIN NIIKAANISAG – WILD RICE COALITION BUILDING & CONFERENCE**  
**AUGUST 8-11, 2006 • LAC VIEUX DESERT RESORT AND CASINO • WATERSMEET, MI**

The main goals of the conference will be to build a regional network of communities and individuals partaking in sustainable ricing cultures. Outcomes include:

- training how to identify, harvest, & process rice
- passing on ricing knowledge to the youth
- networking and refining skills and knowledge
- communicating what is happening on genetic engineering, fair trade labeling, and patenting venues
- Informing agencies, tribes and funding sources to continue funded restoration efforts annually
- Ricing perspective in Anishinaabemowin by fluent speaker
- Education on the cultural and spiritual practices of respect surrounding wild rice replanting, harvesting, & water

Conference workshop topics include: modern rice recipes, rice restoration, ricing in Anishinaabemowin, cultural and spiritual aspects of wild rice, identification and survey training of endangered species of wild rice, viewing of modern ricing operations at LVD.

For more information contact Scott Herron, Assistant Professor of Biology; 820 Campus Drive, ASC 2012; Ferris State University; Big Rapids, MI 49307; 231-591-2087 office; 231-591-2540 fax; [herrons@ferris.edu](mailto:herrons@ferris.edu); Or Melissa Holman - Assistant Conference Planner & Research Assistant, [missy7342003@yahoo.com](mailto:missy7342003@yahoo.com).

There is a pow-wow scheduled for August 11-13 at the pow-wow grounds near the LVD Resort and Casino, and these beautiful grounds are on the lake where LVD has its beds of wild rice.

For more information on the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Indians visit [www.lvdtribal.com](http://www.lvdtribal.com). For more information on conference facilities visit [www.lvdcasino.com](http://www.lvdcasino.com).

**Supported by:**

- ☐ Environmental Leadership Program
- ☐ Ferris State University
- ☐ University of Wisconsin Extension
- ☐ White Earth Land Recovery Project
- ☐ Indigenous Environmental Network
- ☐ United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resource Conservation Service
- ☐ Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- ☐ Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

- ☐ Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
- ☐ Midwest Environmental Advocates, Inc.
- ☐ Northern Michigan University
- ☐ Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- ☐ Muskegon River Watershed Assembly
- ☐ Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- ☐ Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation and Repatriation Alliance
- ☐ Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission

05/09/2004



Members Assistance Department  
Current Assistance Programs



**\*Low Income Energy Assistance Program**

This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing an energy crisis. Assistance is available in all states.  
-Amount of assistance: \$200.00 per year; per household.

**\*LIHEAP  
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program  
(Heat Source – Natural Gas, Propane, Electric, Coal, Fuel Oil and Wood)**  
This is a grant funded program to provide assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a heating crisis and live in the 9 county service areas in Michigan. (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)  
-Amount of assistance varies according to individual income level and available funding.

-Priority is given to Elders, Disabled and Single parents of young children.  
-Eligible if someone in the household is receiving SSI benefits or are receiving Food Stamps

**\*Food Assistance Program**

This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a dietary/food crisis. Assistance is available in all states.  
-Amount of assistance: \$200.00 per year per household; provided in \$50.00 increments.

**\*Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program**

This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a housing crisis. Assistance is available in all states.  
-Amount of assistance: Equivalent to one month’s rent or mortgage payment; amount not to exceed \$1000.00.

**\*\*Home Repair Program**

The Home Repair Program assists home owners who meet the eligibility requirements. The program assists with the repair of substandard roof, electrical, heating, plumbing and weatherization. Assistance is available in all states.  
-Amount of assistance: \$6000.00 per household

**Well and Septic Program**

The Well and Septic is an Indian Health Services (IHS) funded program. This program promotes health and safety for our tribal members by providing new or renovated sanitation facilities (Well and Septic). This program is available in the nine county service areas, there is no income requirement. Applicant must be;  
a. Enrolled member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.  
b. Reside in the nine county service areas (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)  
c. Home must be the primary residence of applicant – (Reside in year around)  
d. Ownership of home/site must be in the tribal member’s name.  
e. Project Site meets the I.H.S Eligibility Requirements.

Members Assistance Program Income Requirements

| Family Size | 150% FPIG | Eligibility is based on 3 months income prior to application |
|-------------|-----------|--|
| 1           | \$14,355  | \$3,588.75   |
| 2           | \$19,245  | \$4,811.25   |
| 3           | \$24,134  | \$6,033.75   |
| 4           | \$29,025  | \$7,256.25   |
| 5           | \$33,915  | \$8,478.75   |
| 6           | \$38,805  | \$9,701.25   |
| 7           | \$43,695  | \$10,923.75  |
| 8           | \$48,585  | \$12,146.25  |

Federal Income Guideline provided by: Federal Register Part V. Department of Health and Human Services  
Dated February 8, 2005

**JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER - The Members Assistance Department hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. We do not close for lunch hour. Staff is available during the noon lunch hour to accomodate membership schedules. If you need assistance please contact the department at anytime or feel free to stop by during regular office hours.**

\*Program can be accessed by the Parent or Guardian of a member who has not reached the age of 18 or the legal guardian of a member who has been determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to require legal guardian over the person and/or affairs, provided that the guardian is not the State of Michigan or other state government.  
\*\*Home Repair Eligibility is based on Annual Income, please contact department for income criteria.

**Please contact the Members Assistance Department for complete program information and/or to request an application.**

**Amber Moore – Intake Clerk  
Linda Wissner – Intake Clerk  
Lee A. Ivinson – Members Assistance Coordinator**

**Phone: Toll Free 888-723-8288  
Fax 231-398-6748**

Announcement from  
the Members Assistance  
Department



The Members Assistance Department will be closed the week of June 12th thru 16th. This is to allow the office to attend the annual LIHEAP conference. Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a grant funded program and enables the tribe to provide heating and crisis energy assistance to low income families. The conference is a multi-faceted training workshop that provides information and ideas to grantees in the areas of maximizing energy assistance funding, assistance resources for clients, LIHEAP legislative updates and other beneficial information. This training also includes a LIHEAP Tribal round table where we meet with other tribes and share information and ideas to better serve our members. We participate in this training to better serve the membership.

Thank-you,

Lee A. Ivinson  
Members Assistance Coordinator

## CHS and EHAP NEWS

Aanii. Spring is almost here! Time for some fresh air and color! White gets very redundant after awhile, don't you think? I have a few reminders for you and a couple of announcements. We'll start with the reminders.

Please remember to call at least 48 hours in advance for regularly scheduled appointments. We do not send purchase orders for emergencies. Emergencies are only payable AFTER the physician notes are reviewed and deemed medically necessary. If you do not have a purchase order or a confirmation number, your bill for service will be denied.

If you live within a 90-minute radius of a Tribal Health Clinic or Facility, you must have your health care coordinated through that facility to receive CHS or EHAP benefits. Some exceptions do apply. If you are not sure of your status or if you are not sure that you live near a Tribal Health Facility, please call and ask. We will be happy to provide you with that information.

As always, if you are in doubt, call. We will help you as best we can with any health information for CHS and/or EHAP. Our toll free number at the Tribal Health Clinic is 1.888.382.8299 or 231.723.8299. Miigwech.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Gina Wright  
CHS/EHAP Supervisor

## Chittenden Project

The Little River Band is embarking on an exciting new effort to protect and preserve its natural and cultural resources. In the coming months, a team led by Legislative Liaison and Tribal Council Member Shannon Crampton will seek special legislation be passed by the United States Congress to transfer the Forest Service's Chittenden Nursery in Wellston in trust for the Tribe. The legislation would call for a unique partnership between the Tribe and the U.S. Forest Service, where the Tribe would renovate and maintain the historic site and potentially share headquarter facilities with the Forest Service. The site would be used by the Tribe for natural resource programs, educational programs and cultural preservation. The Forest Service would continue to use the site for its forestry programs.

The Chittenden Nursery is located in the heart of the Huron-Manistee National Forest on M-55 near Wellston, Michigan and was originally purchased by the Forest Service in 1934. The Nursery became a leader in forestry technologies, produced millions of pine seedlings and is credited with the reforestation of a large part of Northern Michigan. It remained in operation until 1973, after which time it was used off and on for educational and research programs by the Manistee School District. The School District has since suspended its programs at the Nursery.

The Chittenden Nursery was once the crown jewel of National Forest Service operations in Northern Michigan. It is a critically-important historical site for both the Forest Service and the Tribe, whose members worked at the site for

many years. Unfortunately, the land is underutilized and the buildings in slow decline.

After much informal discussion, Forest Service and Tribal personnel realized that an opportunity exists to maintain the Nursery site in a way that is good for all parties involved. The Tribe and the Forest Service have been forging a strong government-to-government working relationship on a number of different collaborative projects, including river habitat restoration, sturgeon restoration and rearing, coordination on black ash preservation, bear population improvement, native plants restoration and fire management.

Based upon this working relationship, the proposal now being promoted is for title to the Chittenden Nursery to be transferred to the Tribe. The Tribe would enter into a legally-binding Memorandum of Understanding with the Forest Service to protect and maintain the property. It would also work with the Forest Service to develop plans to address needed maintenance on the historic structures and for Tribal and Forest Service personnel to share a facility.

The site would remain public and would be dedicated to Inland Natural Resource Management, Education, Cultural Preservation and Forest Service related activities. To accomplish this visionary plan, authorization will have to come through special legislation similar to other land transfers enacted every year by Congress. If successful, the move would put the Nursery in trust for the Tribe.

Councilor Crampton, who is heading up the Legislative Plan for the project, looks forward to working with the Forest Ser-

All EHAP members please remember to include your confirmation numbers on your bills or requests for reimbursements. This helps to expedite your payments and saves time on research.

For the announcements, I need to let you all know that there will be some administration time for the CHS/EHAP department beginning April 3rd. The administration times will be Wednesday mornings from 8:00 am until 11:00am and Thursday afternoons from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. This administration time means that you will not be able to get through to your worker on the phone. All the phone calls will go directly to voicemail. We need this time to get all our check requests in the system without interruption. We only have certain days and time frames to use the accounting system because they need it for processing other checks for the Tribal government, such as Members Assistance, Community Well Being, Elders Benefits, energy assistance, housing, etc. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call.

vice and local government to make this project a reality. "This Project just makes sense on so many different levels for everyone involved," he said. "It would put an underused federal facility to good use, save the U.S. taxpayers money, return land to the Tribe, and protect and maintain the area for generations to come."

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## Tribal Appellate Justice Appointed to Local Board

With a call to Tribal Members to become involved in their community, Ryan Champagne (LRBOI Appellate Justice) was appointed by the Manistee City Council in February to a vacancy on the harbor commission. It is a commission that directly affects issues pertaining to water rights, marina, and the harbor. Champagne said, “I believe that the only way to make a difference in the community, whether being native or non-native, is to be involved.” He added, ‘One can not complain about the system if they do not vote or take an active part in their community.’”

In addition to the Harbor Board appointment, the County Board of Commissioners made some other appointments of tribal interest. The Public Safety Committee brought to the board a request to authorize the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Roster.

The LEPC is a group of (primarily) government officials from various jurisdictions in Manistee County who look at communication and cooperation issues in times of Emergencies. Fire, Law Enforcement, 9-1-1 staff, Hazmat teams and other affiliated emergency response groups are involved. From LRBOI, Public Safety Sgt. Vance Bates, Environmental Planner Frank Beaver and Public Information Director Glenn Zaring were appointed to the board.

They will be continuing their role in communicating with county and state agencies to improve the overall emergency response for the region. This is part of the Federal Homeland Security/FEMA organization.



### Nokomis Learning Center

A Native American Cultural Center

5153 Marsh Road Okemos MI 48864

Tel.: 517.349.5777 Fax: 517.349.8560

[www.nokomis.org](http://www.nokomis.org) [info@nokomis.org](mailto:info@nokomis.org)

February 24 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Fishing Families of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

An exhibit of photographs by Cindy John of fishing families from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

Fishing made it possible for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians to gain Federal Recognition, which occurred in 1980. Federal recognition made it possible for the tribe to exercise their Treaty Rights to fish. Federal recognition has led the tribe to be able to provide health and education services, employ people, and build better homes. Even for those tribal members who do not fish, exercising their Treaty Rights to fish has brought these benefits to everyone in the tribe and the non-natives the Tribe employs.



William Fowler and Ed John, Grand Traverse Bay. Photo by Cindy John

An exhibit of photographs of the fishing families by Cindy John

When: March through the September 2006; open Tuesday-Friday 10-4, Saturday 12-5.

Where: Nokomis Learning Center, 5153 Marsh Road Okemos MI 48864

Tel.: 517.349.5777 Fax: 517.349.8560 [www.nokomis.org](http://www.nokomis.org) [info@nokomis.org](mailto:info@nokomis.org)

This program is funded in part by a grant from **Michigan Humanities Council**, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities



## *Remembering the Past....*

*Submitted by Valerie Chandler, Tribal Historic Preservation Coordinator*

### “Cook Keeps Native American Heritage Alive”

By Deb Hoeksema, News Correspondent

(Re-printed from the Cadillac Evening News, July 7, 1997) \*

CADILLAC—Keeping her Native American heritage alive for her two sons, Kathy Berentsen treats them to special meals made with squaw bread. Deep-fried, the crispy bread can be eaten as it comes from the pan or with butter and jam. It can be used in place of tortilla shells for tacos or wrapped around hot dogs or sausages for “blanket dogs.” Kathy’s father uses them for sandwiches when he goes hunting. For Kathy’s husband, Lars, the best Native American dish is corn soup but it’s a treat he only gets to enjoy at the pow-wow potlucks. It’s hard to get the elders to pass down recipes even to other Native Americans,” Kathy explained. Nine-year-old Nickolas and 3-year-old Jacob absorb even more of their heritage on visits to their grandparents’ and at Native American pow-wows. “My father hunts and traps everything,” Kathy said. “My brother traps, too and Nickolas is learning. My father has gotten the boys to eat anything from squirrel to rabbit, beaver and turtle. I don’t care for those things, so the boys put their orders in when we go to Grandpa and Grandma Koon’s.” “I can remember turtle hunting many times with my dad though. We had to drive them down a bank and then they had to be picked up at the bottom.”

Nothing is wasted from her father’s hunting trips, Kathy said, in keeping with Native American traditions. “My mother actually uses coon grease to fry squaw bread in,” Kathy said about this special treat. “I don’t have access to that so I have to use vegetable oil. My mom’s are fluffier too.” Lars adds that the coon grease makes them taste even better than when they are fried in oil.

**SQUAW BREAD**  
3 cups flour  
1 teaspoon salt  
3 heaping teaspoons baking powder  
1 heaping tablespoon shortening  
1 pint lukewarm water  
Sift flour, salt and baking powder together. Cut shortening into dry ingredients. Add water to make dough the consistency of biscuit dough. Roll dough out to a half inch thickness. Cut three inch squares from rolled dough. Cut a small hole in center of each square. In a large, deep frying pan, fry squares a couple at a time (as they fit pan) in hot cooking oil. Brown one side and then flip to brown other side. Although she is not fond of turtle meat, Kathy said she really enjoys the meat found along the backbone of a snapping turtle’s shell that is similar in taste to chicken.

**SNAPPING TURTLE SHELL**  
Shell of snapping turtle  
Butter  
Salt and pepper to taste  
Bake turtle shell in a 350 degree oven for 1 ½ hours. Put pats of butter on inside back bone of shell and season with salt and pepper.

Kathy made three of this season pie to bring to an elder’s dinner.

**FRESH RHUBARB PIE**  
4 cups rhubarb (2 pounds)  
1 ½ cups sugar  
1 egg, beaten  
Pinch of salt  
2 tablespoons flour  
Juice and grated rind of ¼ orange OR juice from 2 oranges  
Pastry for double pie crust  
In a large bowl, combine all ingredients except pastry. Mix well and pour into pie plate lined with pie crust. Dot with butter. Top with remaining pie crust and bake at 360 to 370 degrees for one hour.

\* Please note that the featured article is re-printed “as is” when it was first published by the noted publication.

## Career Expos 2006

We’d love to meet you! Representatives from the Little River Casino Resort’s Human Resource department will be available to answer questions, discuss employment opportunities and accept applications at the annual Baker College Career Expos being held in April at the following locations:

Baker College of Muskegon  
Gymnasium  
April 25th, 3-6 p.m.

Baker College of Cadillac  
April 26th, 3-7 p.m.

**Do you have a story you would like to share with your friends and family through the *Little River Currents*?**



We are always looking for interesting, informational, historical, or simply anecdotal stories to publish.

Please call Emily Drouin  
at 231-398-6864 or toll free 1-888-723-8288  
You can also e-mail me at [edrouin@lrboi.com](mailto:edrouin@lrboi.com)



## Naval Historical Center



## A Long Tradition Of Participation

### A Long Tradition Of Participation

American Indians have participated with distinction in United States military actions for more than 200 years. Their courage, determination, and fighting spirit were recognized by American military leaders as early as the 18th century.

I think they [Indians] can be made of excellent use, as scouts and light troops. -- Gen. George Washington, 1778

Many tribes were involved in the War of 1812, and Indians fought for both sides as auxiliary troops in the Civil War. Scouting the enemy was recognized as a particular skill of the Native American soldier. In 1866, the U.S. Army established its Indian Scouts to exploit this aptitude. The Scouts were active in the American West in the late 1800s and early 1900s, accompanying Gen. John J. Pershing's expedition to Mexico in pursuit of Pancho Villa in 1916. They were deactivated in 1947 when their last member retired from the Army in ceremonies at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona. Native Americans from Indian Territory were also recruited by Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders and saw action in Cuba in the Spanish-American War in 1898. As the military entered the 20th century, American Indians had already made a substantial contribution through military service and were on the brink of playing an even larger role.

### Contributions In Combat

It is estimated that more than 12,000 American Indians served in the United States military in World War I. Approximately 600 Oklahoma Indians, mostly Choctaw and Cherokee, were assigned to the 142nd Infantry of the 36th Texas-Oklahoma National Guard Division. The 142nd saw action in France and its soldiers were widely recognized for their contributions in battle. Four men from this unit were awarded the Croix de Guerre, while others received the Church War Cross for gallantry.

The outbreak of World War II brought American Indians warriors back to the battlefield in defense of their homeland. Although now eligible for the draft by virtue of the Snyder Act, which gave citizenship to American Indians in 1924, conscription alone does not account for the disproportionate number of Indians who joined the armed services. More than 44,000 American Indians, out of a total Native American population of less than 350,000, served with distinction between 1941 and 1945 in both European and Pacific theatres of war. Native American men and women on the home front also showed an intense desire to serve their country, and were an integral part of the war effort. More than 40,000 Indian peo-

ple left their reservations to work in ordinance depots, factories, and other war industries. American Indians also invested more than \$50 million in war bonds, and contributed generously to the Red Cross and the Army and Navy Relief societies. Battle-experienced American Indian troops from World War II were joined by newly recruited Native Americans to fight Communist aggression during the Korean conflict. The Native American's strong sense of patriotism and courage emerged once again during the Vietnam era. More than 42,000 Native Americans, more than 90 percent of them volunteers, fought in Vietnam. Native American contributions in United States military combat continued in the 1980s and 1990s as they saw duty in Grenada, Panama, Somalia, and the Persian Gulf.

### Native Americans As Warriors

As the 20th century comes to a close, there are nearly 190,000 Native American military veterans. It is well recognized that, historically, Native Americans have the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups. The reasons behind this disproportionate contribution are complex and deeply rooted in traditional American Indian culture. In many respects, Native Americans are no different from others who volunteer for military service. They do, however, have distinctive cultural values which drive them to serve their country. One such value is their proud warrior tradition.

In part, the warrior tradition is a willingness to engage the enemy in battle. This characteristic has been clearly demonstrated by the courageous deeds of Native Americans in combat. However, the warrior tradition is best exemplified by the following qualities said to be inherent to most if not all Native American societies: strength, honor, pride, devotion, and wisdom. These qualities make a perfect fit with military tradition.

### Strength

To be an American Indian warrior is to have physical, mental, and spiritual strength. A warrior must be prepared to overpower the enemy and face death head-on.

We honor our veterans for their bravery and because by seeing death on the battlefield, they truly know the greatness of life. --Winnebago Elder

American Indian soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen have fought heroically in all of this century's wars and armed conflicts. They have not only been formally recognized for their bravery through military decoration but through anecdotal observation as well.

The real secret which makes the Indian

such an outstanding soldier is his enthusiasm for the fight. --U.S. Army Major, 1912

More important, however, is the warrior's spiritual strength. Many traditional cultures recognize that war disrupts the natural order of life and causes a spiritual disharmony. To survive the chaos of war is to gain a more intimate knowledge of life. Therefore, military service is a unique way to develop an inner strength that is valued in Native American society.

Having a strong sense of inner spirituality is also a part of the Indian character. Many Native Americans are raised on rural or remote reservations, an environment that fosters self-reliance, introspection, and a meditative way of thinking. These character traits can be very beneficial when adapting to the occasional isolation of military life in times of both peace and war.

### Honor, Pride, Devotion

Warriors are honored - honored by their family and their tribe. Before going into service and upon their return, warriors are recognized by family and community. Recognition takes place through private family gatherings, or through such public ceremonies as tribal dances or intertribal ceremonies.

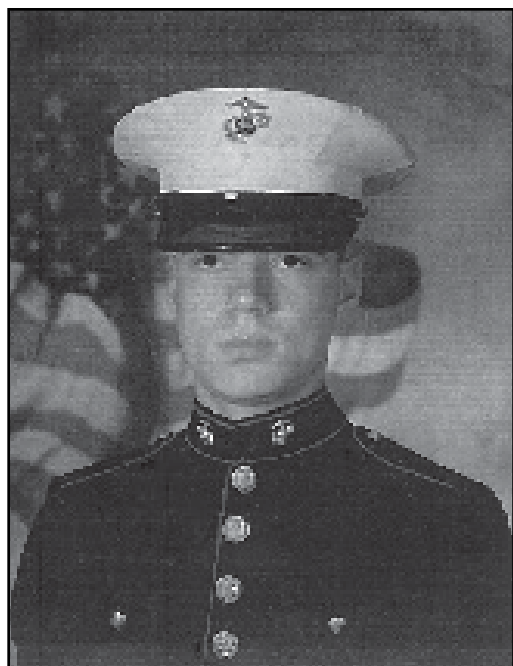
My people honored me as a warrior. We had a feast and my parents and grandparents thanked everyone who prayed for my safe return. We had a "special" [dance] and I remembered as we circled the drum, I got a feeling of pride. I felt good inside because that's the way the Kiowa people tell you that you've done well. --Kiowa Vietnam Veteran

Being a warrior in traditional American Indian society gives one a sense of pride and a sense of accomplishment at a time in life when self-esteem is just developing. Becoming a warrior brings status to young men and women in their culture. The ceremonies that honor the warrior create a special place in the tribe's spiritual world.

After I got home, my uncles sat me down and had me tell them what it [the war] was all about. One of them had been in the service in World War II and knew what war was like. We talked about what went on over there, about killing and the waste, and one of my uncles said that God's laws are against war. They never talked about those kinds of things with me before. --Cherokee Vietnam Veteran

United States military service provides an outlet for Native Americans to fulfill a cultural purpose rooted in tradition -- to fight and defend their homeland. This purpose is particularly important since it comes when young people of the tribe are normally not old enough to assume a





## *Military*

*USMC Reserve LCPL Joseph J. Nelson "For Operation Iraqi Freedom" 12-01-2005 ~ 11-30-06 Tactical Data Network Specialist 1st BN 25th Marines Ft. Devens, Ma.  
You are in our prayers with love.*

*- Love your family Renee, Rachel, and Justin*

leadership role in their traditional culture. The cultural expectation to be a warrior provides a purpose in life and is an important step in gaining status in Native America culture.

When I went to Germany, I never thought about war honors, or the four "coups" which an old-time Crow warrior had to earn in battle...But afterwards, when I came back and went through this telling of war deeds ceremony... lo and behold I [had] completed the four requirements to become a chief. --Crow World War II Veteran

Native American warriors are devoted to the survival of their people and their homeland. If necessary, warriors will lay down their lives for the preservation of their culture, for death to the American Indian warrior is but another step in the advancement of life. It is understood that the warrior's spirit lives on eternally. So, warriors do not fear death, but rather regard it as the ultimate sacrifice for their own and their people's continued survival.

### Wisdom

The warrior seeks wisdom. Wisdom, as used in this context, means the sum total of formal learning and worldly experiences. In wartime, those Native Americans seeing heavy combat had to learn how to survive, often using skills that many unit commanders thought were inherent to the American Indian's cultural background. A Sac and Fox/Creek Korean veteran remarked:

My platoon commander always sent me out on patrols. He. . . probably thought that I could track down the enemy. I don't

know for sure, but I guess he figured that Indians were warriors and hunters by nature.

Many American Indians (as well as non-Indian volunteers) joined the military in World War I to satisfy their sense of adventure. Most had never left the confines of their hometown, much less marched on the battlefields of Europe. These experiences provided a wisdom through exposure to other people and cultures. This was sometimes threatening to the elders of a tribe, who feared that this new-found worldliness would cause unwanted change to their culture. Over time, however, this wisdom of worldly events and peoples was accepted by tribal leaders. Today, Native Americans are increasingly exposed to the non-Indian world through movies and television. Although the military is still an avenue for seeing the world, it has, in the latter half of the 20th century, also provided other types of wisdom. Military service offers excellent educational and job skill opportunities for Native American men and women who frequently come from educationally disadvantaged communities.

Wisdom can also be gained from interaction with others. Military policy in the 20th century has preferred assimilating the American Indian into regular units. Although some divisions had more Native American troops than others, there were never all-Indian units. This meant that Indians and non-Indians were placed in close-knit groups, perhaps each experiencing each other's culture up close for the first time.

There was a camaraderie [in the Air Force] that transcends ethnicity when you serve your country overseas in wartime. --Sen.

Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Cheyenne Korean veteran

Similarly, intertribal relationships were developed, sometimes with a person who was a traditional "enemy." Many times these intercultural and intertribal contacts broke through stereotypes and resulted in lifelong friendships, friendships that otherwise might never have been cultivated. Thanks to my military service [in the Navy], I now have friends in 500 tribes. --Lakota Korean veteran

### The Warrior Tradition Carries On

The requirements for successful military service -- strength, bravery, pride, and wisdom - match those of the Indian warrior. Military service affords an outlet for combat that fulfills a culturally determined role for the warrior. Therefore, the military is an opportunity for cultural self-fulfillment. By sending young tribal members off to be warriors, they return with experiences that make them valued members of their society. Finally, the military provides educational opportunities, which allow Native American veterans to return to their community with productive job skills to improve their quality of life. With the 21st century on the horizon, the United States military can be expected to provide a continuing opportunity for Native American men and women. For their part, Native Americans can be expected to carry on their centuries-old warrior tradition- serving with pride, courage, and distinction.

13 June 2005

## Warrior Society Memorial Re-Dedication

The LRBOI Warrior Society is planning a re-dedication of the Memorial Monument at the Little River Casino Resort. There will be a dinner and ceremony on Sunday May 28th, 2006.

The program will start at 11am followed by a lunch at the casino's Three Fires Conference Room.

For planning purposes, anyone interested in attending is asked to please contact Al Medacco by mail, phone or e-mail at:

2705 Townline Rd, Freesoil, MI 49411  
Strongbear71@aol.com  
231-464-5052



## Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday Dennis King  
Yvonne & Nicole and Family

Happy Birthday Missy Renner  
Yvonne & Nicole & Family

Happy Birthday to my sister Linda Parham-April 28  
-Love Birdie and Family

Happy 17th Birthday Tiffany Symons  
-Love ya much Grandma Candie

Sabrina Darlene Noimi Ray, Happy 12th Birthday! May  
the Creator who most definitely Blessed you, also lead you  
in the right direction.

-love you Mom, Dad, Ruby J. , Lily, and Elye

Happy Birthday -Gaa Chin Noodin- Gi zahgin- Mike

Happy Birthday Mary Thomas March 31 st.  
-Love Trish and Mike

Happy Birthday Paul Willis March 10th  
-Love Trish and Mike

Happy Birthday Gina Wright March 24th  
-From Clinic Staff

Happy Birthday Genevieve McGowinn March 11  
-Love Ya Trish and Mike

Happy Birthday to my nephew Takoda  
Hope you had a wonderful birthday weekend.  
Antie Nita loves you very much.

Happy Birthday to my mom (Charlene)  
I hope you have an excellent day.  
I love you Nita

Happy Birthday to my Auntie Beverly  
I love you Nita



## Happy Belated Birthday!

Happy Birthday James Mitchell Theodore Feb.14th our  
little boy is now a teenager, Happy 13th  
-Love Always, Dad, Mom, Taryn

Happy Birthday Howard W. Koon III March 20th  
-Love Cynthia , Lee, Todd, Teresa, & Mom

Happy B-Day 2-24 Grandma Candie  
-Love ya Jasmine Sanchez and Uncle Andrew

Happy 78th Birthday George Pete (Feb 1st)  
-Love your son Todd

Happy Sweet "16" Jazzy Koon  
March 11, 2006  
-Love ya Mom, Dad, Namush, Demo

Happy Birthday Dad and many more  
-From your daughters Melissa and Brianna and your son  
Jason  
We love you

Happy Sweet 16th Birthday Shasha Carter March 9th  
-We love you! Mom, Dad, Jacob, & Owen

Happy Belated Birthday to Dave Shutlz Feb. 26  
-Love Trish and Mike

Happy Belated Birthday Justin Bunting Feb. 6  
-From Clinic Staff

Happy Belated Birthday Heidi Foster Feb. 2  
-From Clinic Staff

## HAPPY EASTER!

Happy Easter to all L.R.B.O.I.  
May you have most beautiful Easter ever!  
-Love Angela Eagle and kids



## Thank you...

I want to give a Great Big Huge Thank you to my friends Jackie & Ken Lahaye,  
and Big Guy Steve.

You have been so wonderful to offer me and my li'l ones rides sinse my car has  
Died. I don't know what I would ever do without you!

We love you!

-Angela and kids

## Congratulations!

Congrats to Rachel Walsh for making the Honor Roll.

- Love Uncle Butch, Aunt Nicole, Mom, Joe, and boys

Congratulations Reid Heller - #135 1rst place districts & 5th place at State.  
We're so proud of you. Hammer!

-Love Mom.

Good job to Joslyn, Jessica, Jake, and babies at snowsnake

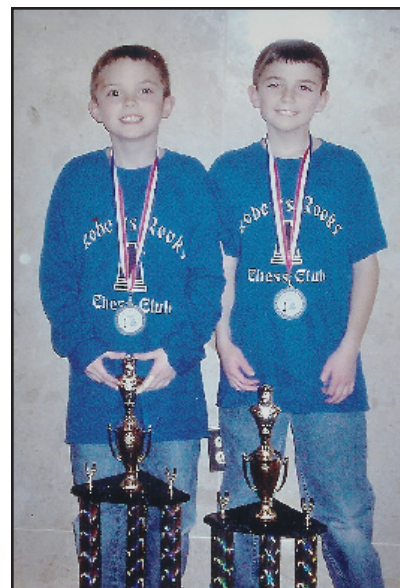
-From Butch, Nicole, Rachel, Bronsen, and Blaque

Congratulations to Troy and Sean  
Walters for their performance in the  
Michigan Scholastics Team Chess  
Championships held in East Lan-  
sing, February 4th.

Troy was first board and his team  
won a State championship in the  
K-5 division out of 28 teams from  
all over the state. Troy also won a  
silver medal for his individual per-  
formance.

Sean was 1st board on his team that  
finished ½ point from first place in  
the K-3 division out of 52 teams.  
Sean won a silver medal for his in-  
dividual performance. We couldn't  
be more proud of you!

-Love Mom & Dad



*Chaplain Onesiphorus Brian Burrel*  
*Director and Religion Programming Coordinator*  
*West Shoreline Correctional Facility ( MIF )*  
*2500 South Sheridan Drive*  
*Muskegon Heights, MI 49444*

*March 1st, 2006*

*Dear Little River Currents:*

*Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I am*  
*so pleased to receive your public information newspaper.*

*Your paper is appreciated by our men who read them with*  
*great pride. So we all thank you for your gifts and continue*  
*support in reading materials. May The Great Spirit in our*  
*Lord Jesus Christ bless you.*

*Sincerely,*

*Chaplain Onesiphorus Brian Burrel*



## Good Thunder

Good Thunder motorcycles is currently displaying one of its creations in the lobby at the Manistee National City Bank.

Top - Bank Manager Joni Purgiel and GT owner Don Stone in the lobby with the motorcycle

Bottom - Tribal Council and Don Stone



## Spring Gathering

"A Time of Healing"

**Wenesh pii:** Saturday, March 25, 2006

**Aanii piish:** Aki Maadiziwin

**10:00am to 6/6:30pm**

**Don't forget...**  
Women please bring/  
wear a long skirt.  
Women also please  
remember to refrain  
from taking part in  
ceremonies while on  
your moon. If you  
have any questions,  
contact Julie Wolfe.

Pipe Ceremony for bringing  
together the Ogema, Tribal  
Council, Warriors' Society,  
and the Membership!

**Lunch will be provided/  
please bring a dish to pass  
for dinner.**

Get involved in the  
planting of the Heal-  
ing Tree. Ceremony  
to begin at 10:45am.

R.S.V.P. Julie Wolfe 1-888-382-8299 or  
Valerie Chandler 1-888-723-8288



## The Untame

by Danielle McIntyre

As the coyote walks the pavement  
He rustles dirt from a layer of Earth buried  
Under Industry and economics

He's stopped for a traffic light that signals the first row  
Of corn and tobacco stretched beyond  
Comerica and Staples headquarters  
To the lake where temporary people  
Pushed up stakes and hung their skins

The coyote howls when he hears their voices  
That walked that dirt  
That sang those songs  
And lived that life on planted land

The coyote blinks in remembrance  
Of the tribes that cherished his walk  
Encompassed his spirit

From where he stands  
The sun is hidden behind the moon drenched in stars  
And blocked by buildings reflecting the streets

He licks his paw tasting the blood and bones  
Of his people lost to a new culture  
Birthed from the cement he walks

## Little River

By Danielle McIntyre

Banished to upper Michigan  
To 1000 acres buried in snow  
Ungoverned property, pretaxed  
And quarantined poverty  
Men and women hunted  
Lands unplanted and unfamiliar  
Familiar predicament too many  
Natives tongues cut free and fried  
As treaties were priced and buried  
With 14 million who signed  
Those left are assimilated or corralled in herds  
To pretaxed and almost ungoverned lands  
Traded for golden slot machines  
In upper Michigan



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